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# The Health of Luton



1959



BOROUGH



OF LUTON

ANNUAL REPORT  
ON THE  
HEALTH OF LUTON  
1959

R. M. DYKES  
M.A., M.D., D.P.H.



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BOROUGH



OF LUTON

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**BOROUGH OF LUTON**  
**PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE**  
(as at end of year 1959)

*Mayor*

ALDERMAN MRS. R. O. ANDREWS, J.P.

*Chairman*

COUNCILLOR L. W. WHITING

COUNCILLOR A. C. CARTER

COUNCILLOR D. F. HARROWELL

COUNCILLOR MRS. B. F. CHILD

COUNCILLOR A. H. HOOTON

COUNCILLOR R. J. CLARK

COUNCILLOR C. JEPHSON

COUNCILLOR S. GONSHOR

COUNCILLOR K. G. PICKERING, C.C.

COUNCILLOR F. GOODYEAR

COUNCILLOR MISS M. E. REDMAN

---

**BEDFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**LUTON DIVISIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE**

*Chairman*

COUNCILLOR R. J. CLARK

*Deputy Chairman*

COUNCILLOR L. W. WHITING

*Representing Luton Borough Council*

COUNCILLOR F. GOODYEAR

COUNCILLOR K. G. PICKERING, C.C.

COUNCILLOR A. H. HOOTON

COUNCILLOR MISS M. E. REDMAN

*Representing Bedfordshire County Council*

COUNTY ALDERMAN T. E. S. LLOYD

COUNTY ALDERMAN MRS. A. URWIN

COUNTY ALDERMAN H. R. WALLER,  
M.B.E., D.L., J.P.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR F. A. JARVIS

COUNTY COUNCILLOR F. C. LINES

*Representing Local Medical Committee*

DR. S. SEED

*Representing Hospital Management Committee*

MR. K. I. JONES, O.B.E.

## BOROUGH OF LUTON

### STAFF

*Medical Officer of Health*

*Divisional Medical Officer*

R. M. DYKES, M.A., M.D., D.P.H.

*Deputy Medical Officer of Health*

R. S. COOPER, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

*Assistant Medical Officers*

G. A. ROBERTS, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

D. G. H. PATEY, M.A., B.M., D.P.H.

H. A. JOHNSTON, M.B., B.CH., B.A.O., D.P.H.

*Chief Public Health Inspector*

G. F. MACEFIELD, F.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

*Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector*

R. LORD, F.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H., A.M.I.P.H.E.

*Specialist Inspectors*

*Food Hygiene*

P. A. FREESTONE, M.A.P.H.I.

*Housing*

S. G. COCKS, M.A.P.H.I., A.M.I.P.H.E.

*Smoke Abatement*

S. SUMMERSON, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.

*District Public Health Inspectors (6)*

All Public Health Inspectors hold the Statutory qualifications and the Certificate of the Royal Society for the Promotion of Health for Meat and Other Food Inspector. Additional qualifications include R.S.H. Certificate for Smoke Inspector, R.S.H. Certificate in Sanitary Science as applied to Buildings and Public Works, and the Certificate of Associateship of the Institute of Public Health Engineers.

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## LUTON DIVISIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE

### STAFF

*Senior Administrative Officer*

H. TOWLE

*Superintendent Health Visitor*

MRS. A. E. LANGFORD, S.R.N., S.C.M., Cert.H.V.

*Health Visitors (9)*

*State Registered Nurses (7)*

*Day Nursery Matrons*

MRS. J. M. GREEN, S.R.N. MISS D. HAFFIELD, S.R.N. MISS D. HOBBS, S.R.N.

*Divisional Nursing Officer*

MISS A. FEATHERSTONE, S.R.N., S.C.M., Cert.H.V., Q.NS.

*Domiciliary Midwives (13)*

*District Nurses (14)*

*Home Help Officer*

MISS E. A. PARSONS

*Chief Clerk*

J. W. A. LINDLEY



# BOROUGH OF LUTON

---

R. M. DYKES

M.A., M.D., D.P.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

TELEPHONE 5770

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

63-69 GUILDFORD STREET

LUTON

*February, 1960.*

His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and  
Councillors of the Borough of Luton.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In the report for 1958 attention was drawn to the rising birth rate in Luton and the sustained growth of population by immigration. This trend was maintained during 1959. The Registrar General's mid-year estimate of population for 1959 was 120,500, whilst the live birth rate per 1,000 resident population rose to 19.5. This rising birth rate in a growing population resulted in a new record number of births in Luton, the 2,351 live births in 1959 exceeding the number in 1947 (the previous peak year) by 48. The 999 domiciliary confinements (45.2% of the total) also constituted a record exceeding the number for the previous year by 157 and the year 1947 by 349.

The Local Health Authority had anticipated this increased pressure on the domiciliary midwifery service by raising the establishment of midwives from ten to thirteen early in the year. The number of midwives actually on the staff during 1959 was eleven full time and two part time. Throughout the year also there was an average of eight pupils in district training with the result that the average case load of midwives was in keeping with the recommendation of the Rushcliffe Committee of 66 confinements a year without a pupil and 90 confinements with a pupil.

The infant mortality rate of 23.4 per 1,000 live births is slightly higher than the provisional figure of 22.0 for England and Wales, but on the other hand the still birth rate of 17.9 in Luton compares very favourably with the provisional figure of 20.7 for the country as a whole.

The statistical data in other sections of the report are equally reassuring. The incidence of infectious diseases was low, except for measles which exhibited its expected biennial periodicity. Only four cases of poliomyelitis were notified, and whilst all were classified as paralytic there was no death and only one suffered any residual weakness.

In the section of the report dealing with environmental health services the public analyst has, for the first time, drawn attention to the low fluorine content of the town's water supply. Independently the school dental officer, in the section of the report dealing with the school health service, touches on the benefit that might derive from the fluoridation of drinking water. Fluoridation of public water supplies as a means of reducing the incidence of caries among children has been a matter for discussion recently, both in the medical journals and in the national press. The three trials of artificial fluoridation in this country—in Watford, Kilmarnock and Anglesey—will be completed in 1961, and it will be most interesting to discover whether the results will support the claim made in the United States for a reduction of up to 60% in the caries attack rate of the deciduous teeth, together with a smaller but still substantial reduction in that of the permanent dentition, at least up to the age of 16 years. The figure of 60% is probably on the high side, and some of the statistical methods used in the American trials are open to criticism, but the mass of evidence that has accumulated since the end of the 1920's suggests very strongly that fluoridation is a safe and worthwhile method of reducing the incidence of caries. The optimum fluoride content would appear to be about 1.0 part per million with an upper limit of 1.2 parts per million, and most current projects aim at a level between 0.9 and 1.0 parts per million. The fluoride content of Luton water is, as shown by the analyst, low, being between 0.05 and 0.1 parts per million. It has been reckoned that fluoridation costs about 6d. per head per year, but the cost might be slightly higher in Luton because of the large amount of water used by local industries. Reports from the United States make it plain that fluoride levels in the neighbourhood of 1.0 parts per million have no deleterious effects on industrial plant, nor do they interfere with any chemical processes. Although there has been a good deal of opposition to fluoridation—mainly on emotional rather than scientific ground—very careful consideration indeed must be given to any procedure that may help to minimise the damage which dental decay is now causing to an even greater extent than ever before.

The unflagging interest of the Chairman in the work of the department and the patience and understanding of the members of the committee is acknowledged with gratitude by the staff, who have been encouraged to give of their best to maintain the smooth running of the health services.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

R. M. DYKES,

*Medical Officer of Health.*



**STATISTICS  
AND  
SOCIAL CONDITIONS  
OF THE AREA**

## GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (from 1st April, 1939) ... ..	8,773 acres
Population (Census, 1951) ... ..	110,381
Registrar-General's Estimate for mid-1959 ... ..	120,500
Number of inhabited houses, 1st April, 1959 ... ..	37,637
Rateable value (1st April, 1959) reduced ... ..	£2,054,638
Sum represented by Penny Rate ... ..	£7,305

## EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1959

## Live Births

					<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Notified:	Legitimate	...	...	...	1,531	1,411	2,942
	Illegitimate	...	...	...	79	76	155
	ALL	...	...	...	1,610	1,487	3,097
*Registered:	Legitimate	...	...	...	1,177	1,063	2,240
	Illegitimate	...	...	...	57	54	111
	ALL	...	...	...	1,234	1,117	2,351

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population (provisional) 19.5

## Still Births

Notified:	Legitimate	...	...	...	37	35	72
	Illegitimate	...	...	...	1	1	2
	ALL	...	...	...	38	36	74
*Registered:	Legitimate	...	...	...	22	19	41
	Illegitimate	...	...	...	1	1	2
	ALL	...	...	...	23	20	43

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births ... .. 17.9

Total Live and Still Births (Registered)\* ... .. 2,394

## Infant Deaths

*Registered:	Legitimate	...	...	...	28	21	49
	Illegitimate	...	...	...	2	4	6
	ALL	...	...	...	30	25	55

Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births ... .. 23.4

„ „ „ „ „ Legitimate births ... .. 21.9

„ „ „ „ „ Illegitimate births ... .. 54.0

Neo-natal Mortality Rate (first four weeks) per 1,000 related live births ... 15.7

Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (first week) per 1,000 related live births ... 12.7

Peri-natal Mortality Rate (still births and deaths during the first week)  
per 1,000 total live and still births ... .. 30.5

Percentage of illegitimate live births ... .. 4.7%

## Maternal Deaths (excluding abortion)

Puerperal sepsis ... ..	1
Other Puerperal causes ... ..	1

Maternal Mortality Rate (including abortions) per 1,000 total births ... ALL 2  
0.8

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Total Deaths (Registered)* ... ..	629	551	1,180

Death Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population ... .. 9.7

\* Corrected for Inward and Outward Transfers



**BIRTH RATES, DEATH RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY,  
MATERNAL DEATH RATES AND CASE RATES FOR CERTAIN  
INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE YEAR 1959**

(England and Wales, London, 160 Great Towns and 160 Smaller Towns)  
(Provisional figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns)

(Gummed slip to follow)

## COMPARATIVE STATISTICS FOR 1950-1959

Year	Esti- mated Popula- tion	LIVE BIRTHS			STILLBIRTHS		DEATHS			INFANT DEATHS				MATERNAL DEATHS			
		Number	Rate per 1,000 esti- mated Popula- tion	Compara- bility factor	Number	Rate per 1,000 total births	Number	Rate per 1,000 esti- mated Popula- tion	Compara- bility factor	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks —12 months	TOTAL	Rate per 1,000 live births	Number			
														Sepsis	Other	Total	Rate per 1,000 total births
1950	110,210	1,706	15.5	0.95	50	28.5	1,056	9.6	1.13	21	17	38	22	—	1	1	0.6
1951	109,600	1,727	15.8	0.95	45	25.3	1,075	9.8	1.12	41	16	57	33	—	—	—	—
1952	110,500	1,653	14.9	0.95	37	21.8	1,044	9.4	1.12	29	14	43	26	—	2	2	1.2
1953	111,200	1,651	14.8	0.95	46	27.1	1,032	9.2	1.12	30	17	47	28	—	1	1	0.6
1954	112,500	1,569	13.7	0.99	40	24.8	1,033	9.1	1.13	35	14	49	31	—	—	—	—
1955	113,800	1,597	14.0	0.99	34	20.8	1,080	9.5	1.13	18	7	25	14.9	—	2	2	1.2
1956	114,500	1,776	15.5	1.00	40	22.0	1,141	9.9	1.21	34	10	44	24.7	—	1	1	0.5
1957	115,900	1,937	16.6	1.00	39	19.7	1,148	9.9	1.21	36	15	51	26.6	—	1	1	0.5
1958	118,300	2,176	18.4	1.00	45	20.2	1,077	9.1	1.21	33	6	40	18.3	—	1	1	0.4
1959	120,500	2,351	19.5	—	43	17.9	1,180	9.7	—	37	18	55	23.4	1	1	2	0.8

## LIVE BIRTHS, STILL BIRTHS AND INFANT MORTALITY 1950-1959

		1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959*
LIVE BIRTHS	Rate per 1,000 estimated population	England and Wales ...	15.8	15.3	15.5	15.2	15.0	15.6	16.1	16.4	16.5
		LUTON ...	15.5	14.9	14.8	13.7	14.0	15.5	16.6	18.4	19.5
STILL BIRTHS	Rate per 1,000 total births	England and Wales ...	22.7	22.7	22.5	23.5	23.2	23.0	22.5	21.6	20.7
		LUTON ...	28.5	25.3	21.8	24.8	20.8	22.0	19.7	20.2	17.9
INFANT MORTALITY	Rate per 1,000 live births	England and Wales ...	29.6	29.7	27.6	25.4	24.9	23.7	23.1	22.6	22.0
		LUTON ...	22.2	33.0	26.0	31.2	14.9	24.7	26.6	18.3	23.4
NEO-NATAL DEATHS	Rate per 1,000 live births	England and Wales ...	18.5	18.8	18.3	17.7	17.3	16.8	16.5	16.2	—
		LUTON ...	12.3	23.7	17.5	22.3	10.7	19.1	18.8	15.7	15.7
PERI-NATAL DEATHS	Rate per 1,000 live births and stillbirths	England and Wales ...	37.6	38.1	37.5	37.0	37.5	36.8	36.2	35.1	—
		LUTON ...	37.6	41.7	35.5	41.8	42.2	40.0	36.3	34.1	30.5

\* Provisional figures only.

## DISTRIBUTION OF NOTIFIED LIVE BIRTHS AS BETWEEN INSTITUTIONAL AND DOMICILIARY CONFINEMENT

(Corrected for Inward and Outward Transfers)

Year	Institutional				Domiciliary				Grand Total
	Maternity Hospital Units	Private Nursing Homes	Total	Per Cent of all	District Mid-wives	Doctors and Parents	Total	Per Cent of all	
1954	832	156	988	63.3	567	5	572	36.7	1,560
1955	843	177	1,020	63.4	584	5	589	36.6	1,609
1956	933	173	1,106	62.2	665	5	670	37.8	1,776
1957	1,017	164	1,181	61.0	747	9	756	39.0	1,937
1958	1,162	167	1,329	61.0	842	5	847	39.0	2,176
1959	1,157	195	1,352	57.5	996	3	999	42.5	2,351

## DISTRIBUTION OF NOTIFIED STILL BIRTHS AS BETWEEN INSTITUTIONAL AND DOMICILIARY CONFINEMENT

(Corrected for Inward and Outward Transfers)

Cause	Maternity Hospital Units	Private Nursing Home	Domiciliary	Grand Total
Maternal Toxaemia ... ..	2	—	—	2
Foetal malformation ... ..	3	—	1	4
Prematurity ... ..	7	—	—	7
Complications of labour ... ..	3	—	—	3
Accidental haemorrhage ... ..	8	—	—	8
Unknown causes ... ..	12	—	7	19
Total ... ..	35	—	8	43

## OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM

(i) Total number of cases notified during the year ...	Nil
(ii) Number of cases in which:—	
(a) Vision lost ... ..	Nil
(b) Vision impaired ... ..	Nil
(c) Treatment continuing at end of year ...	Nil

## DEATHS OF LUTON RESIDENTS DURING THE YEAR 1959

CAUSE OF DEATH	All Ages	Under 4 weeks	1 month to 1 year	Total under 1 year	1-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75 +
1. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ... ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
2. Other forms of Tuberculosis ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
3. Syphilitic Diseases ... ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
4. Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal Infections ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8. Measles ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9. Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10. Malignant Neoplasm ... ..	34	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	5	14	10
11. Stomach ... Neoplasm ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	20	11	4
12. Lung and Bronchus ... ..	46	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	2	4	5
13. Malignant Neoplasm Breast ... ..	22	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	5	2	4
14. Malignant Neoplasm Uterus ... ..	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15. Other Malignant and Lymph. Neoplasm ... ..	109	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	3	3	16	21	38	26
16. Leukaemia ... ..	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2	1	2	—
17. Diabetes ... ..	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2	6
18. Vascular Lesions ... ..	209	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	12	14	66	114
19. Coronary Disease Angina ... ..	175	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	18	33	64	57
Carried forward ... ..	632	1	—	1	—	—	1	2	4	17	73	103	205	226

## DEATHS OF LUTON RESIDENTS DURING THE YEAR 1959 (continued)

CAUSE OF DEATH	All Ages	Under 4 weeks	1 month to 1 year	Total under 1 year	1-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75 +
Brought forward ...	632	1	—	1	—	—	1	2	4	17	73	103	205	226
19. Hypertension with Heart Disease ...	51	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	19	27
20. Other Heart Diseases ...	134	—	2	2	—	—	—	2	1	7	5	10	28	79
21. Other Circulatory Diseases ...	17	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	10	6
22. Influenza ...	15	—	1	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	1	4	5
23. Pneumonia ...	65	4	7	11	1	—	—	1	1	1	3	12	11	24
24. Bronchitis ...	57	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	9	21	22
25. Other Respiratory Diseases ...	33	6	2	8	—	—	1	—	—	—	4	9	8	3
26. Ulcer of Stomach or Duo- denum ...	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	3
27. Gastritis Ent. and Diarrhoea ...	5	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	2
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis ...	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	3	1	—
29. Hyperplasia of Prostrate ...	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3
30. Pregnancy — Birth and Abortion ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
31. Congenital Malformations ...	12	6	2	8	—	1	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—
32. All other Diseases ...	95	20	1	21	2	—	—	1	3	2	6	11	5	44
33. Motor Vehicle Accidents ...	12	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	2	2	1	3	—	1
34. All other Accidents ...	14	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	4	—	—	2	1	3
35. Suicide ...	19	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	6	5	4	—
36. Homicide and Operation of War ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	1,180	37	18	55	4	1	6	12	19	35	106	174	320	448

## DEATHS OF LUTON INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE DURING 1959

Cause of Death	under 1 day	1 day	2 days	3 days	4 days	5 days	6 days	7 days	14 days	21 to 28 days	28 days to 2 m'ths	2 m'ths	3 m'ths	4 m'ths	5 m'ths	6 m'ths	7 m'ths	8 m'ths	9 m'ths	10 m'ths	11 to 12 m'ths	All
Vascular Lesions ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Other heart diseases ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Influenza ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia ...	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	1	—	1	1	1	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	11
Bronchitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Other respiratory diseases ...	—	2	1	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	8
Gastro-Enteritis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Congenital Malformations ...	1	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	8
All other diseases—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Prematurity ...	6	5	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	13
Birth Trauma ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Rhesus incompatibility ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Other ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
Total ...	12	10	1	2	2	2	1	3	3	1	1	5	5	2	1	1	1	1	1	—	—	55

NOTIFIED INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1959, Civilian (Corrected in cases of revised diagnosis)

	Under 1 year	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-65	Over 65	TOTAL
Scarlet Fever ...	1	1	—	1	5	11	6	1	—	1	—	—	—	27
Whooping Cough ...	8	7	6	3	1	21	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	46
Measles ...	46	150	170	206	159	434	40	11	2	4	—	—	—	1,262
Paratyphoid Fever ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2
Pneumonia ...	2	2	1	2	1	3	1	1	4	11	14	30	11	83
Acute Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	4
Post Infectious Encephalitis	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Dysentery ...	4	1	—	3	1	—	2	1	1	3	—	1	—	17
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	15	13	1	—	—	34
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	—	5
Jaundice ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	3	—	—	4
Food Poisoning ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	2	—	4
ALL ...	63	163	177	216	167	470	50	20	22	32	22	36	11	1,481



**DEATHS OF LUTON RESIDENTS DURING THE YEARS 1948-1959  
FROM CARCINOMA OF THE LUNGS OR BRONCHUS**

AGE GROUPS																
Year	All Ages		15-24		25-34		35-44		45-54		55-64		65-74		75+	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1949 ...	22	3	—	—	—	—	2	1	5	—	9	1	5	—	1	1
1950 ...	24	5	—	—	—	—	1	—	5	—	14	3	2	2	2	—
1951 ...	31	5	—	—	—	—	2	—	7	2	11	1	11	2	—	—
1952 ...	38	3	—	—	—	—	2	—	5	1	17	1	11	1	3	—
1953 ...	24	2	—	—	—	—	2	2	4	—	13	—	5	—	—	—
1954 ...	42	8	—	—	1	—	2	—	10	1	14	5	12	1	3	1
1955 ...	42	3	—	—	—	—	1	—	6	—	21	1	11	1	3	1
1956 ...	38	4	—	—	—	—	4	—	10	—	13	2	6	2	5	—
1957 ...	52	2	1	—	—	—	2	1	16	1	15	—	17	—	1	—
1958 ...	47	6	—	—	1	—	3	—	7	2	16	1	14	2	6	1
1959 ...	43	3	—	—	—	—	1	—	10	—	18	2	11	—	3	1
TOTAL ...	403	44	1	—	2	—	22	4	85	7	161	17	105	11	27	5
	447		1		2		26		92		178		116		32	

NEW CASES OF SICKNESS REGISTERED AT NATIONAL INSURANCE OFFICES  
DURING JANUARY, FEBRUARY AND MARCH 1959.



## TUBERCULOSIS

Seventy two new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified during the year, giving a notification rate of .59 per thousand of the population. When comparing that figure with that of last year (102) it should be remembered that 27 of the cases notified during 1958 were diagnosed as a result of the Mass Radiography Unit. Nevertheless, it is worthy of note to record that only 25 of the new cases were twenty-five years of age or under.

Only two deaths were attributed to pulmonary tuberculosis—the lowest number ever recorded in Luton.

### PARTICULARS OF NEW CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS AND ALL DEATHS FROM THE DISEASE DURING 1959

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 year ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 „ ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10 „ ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 „ ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
20 „ ...	6	2	—	1	—	—	—	—
25 „ ...	8	4	1	2	—	—	—	—
35 „ ...	15	5	—	2	—	1	—	—
45 „ ...	8	3	—	—	—	—	1	—
55 „ ...	10	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
65+ ...	5	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
Totals ...	56	16	1	6	1	1	1	—

The following table shows the number of cases of tuberculosis notified in Luton during each of the last five years together with the number of deaths:—

Year	Notified		Deaths	
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
1955 ...	116	17	10	—
1956 ...	62	22	4	—
1957 ...	103	7	9	—
1958 ...	102	10	6	1
1959 ...	72	7	2	1

The following table shows the number of cases on the register at the 31st December, 1959, together with the numbers added to the register and those removed during the year.

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
No. of cases on the Register of Notifications on 1st January ... ..	635	500	30	74
No. of cases notified for the first time during the year ... ..	56	16	1	6
No. of cases transferred from other districts ... ..	30	17	2	2
No. of cases reinstated to the Register ...	1	—	—	—
	722	533	33	82
No. of cases removed from the Register during the year on account of having:—				
(a) recovered ... ..	87	64	9	16
(b) removed from the district ... ..	25	22	—	1
(c) died from Tuberculosis ... ..	1	1	1	—
(d) died from other causes ... ..	11	3	1	—
(e) diagnosis not established ... ..	1	—	—	—
(f) lost sight of ... ..	6	10	—	—
No. of cases remaining on the Register on 31st December ... ..	591	433	22	65

### FOOD POISONING

No. of Notifications ... .. 4

(Agent identified—Salmonella organisms in all cases.)

### NURSING HOMES REGISTRATION, Public Health Act, 1936

The registration of nursing homes is governed by the Public Health Act, 1936, and the responsible authority is the County Council. The County Council have, however, delegated their powers to the Borough Council.

Nursing Homes are inspected monthly and during 1959 no contraventions were found.

Name of Nursing Home	Date of Registration with Luton Borough Council	DIVISION OF BEDS			
		Maternity	Surgical	Medical	Total
The Chase ...	3.4.46	7	—	—	7

During the year 195 women were delivered in the Chase Nursing Home.

## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948 and NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951

Removal to suitable premises of Persons in need of Care and Attention

---

The National Assistance Act, 1948, gives power to the Local Authority to remove compulsorily to hospital or other such premises persons suffering from grave chronic disease, or who being aged, infirm or physically incapacitated, are living in insanitary conditions and are unable to devote to themselves, and are not receiving from other persons, proper care and attention.

The Public Health Committee may, after consideration of a report from the Medical Officer of Health, authorise application to a Magistrate's Court requesting a Court Order for the person's removal to hospital or other suitable place and for their detention for a period not exceeding three months.

Under the provisions of the Amendment Act of 1951, the Local Authority may, when urgent removal is considered necessary, authorise the Medical Officer of Health to take immediate action seeking a Magistrate's Order to detain the person in suitable premises for a period not exceeding three weeks.

Several cases were brought to notice during the year, and in all but two cases, it was possible to alleviate or remedy the circumstances by the provision of a domestic help or district nurse.

The remaining two cases were women, one aged 66 years and the other 80 years. In the first case it was necessary to obtain a Magistrate's Order under the National Assistance (Amendment) Act and a further Order under the principal Act of 1948. The second woman, at the last moment, entered Part III accommodation of her own accord.

## HEALTH EDUCATION 1959

The practice of giving courses of lectures was extended this year. Early in September a comprehensive list of suitable films and film strips was circulated to all the Young Wives' Groups in the town with a covering letter offering a free choice of subjects. A member of the professional staff attended each lecture to answer questions arising from the showing of the film or film strip.

By the end of the year six groups had accepted the invitation and the result can be judged by the considerable increase in the number of talks given on child welfare during the year. This procedure allowed the staff of the Health Department to plan a systematic course of lectures and at the same time this gave the groups a regular series round which the rest of their programme for the season could be built.

A course on mothercraft was held for twenty St. John Ambulance Brigade Cadets in accordance with the syllabus arranged by that Organisation.

In addition, in-service training films on the lifting of patients both at home and in hospital, and the use of antiseptics, were given to the midwives, district nurses and health visitors.

In all, 53 lectures were given as follows:—

Child Welfare	...	...	31
Health Services	...	...	1
Home Safety	...	...	10
Others	...	...	11

**PERSONAL  
HEALTH  
SERVICES**

**(LUTON DIVISIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE)**

NATIONAL  
HEALTH  
SERVICE  
ACT, 1946

## SECTION 22—CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

### (a) Provision of Clinics

The increase in the number of births is reflected in the attendances at the Welfare Centres during 1959, when there was an increase of 2,786 attendances over the previous year. Eighteen hundred and sixty eight of the 2,351 children born during the year attended for the first time representing 79% of the total births.

Towards the end of the year, the Phenistix test for phenylketonuria was introduced, the test being applied when infants are 3 weeks old and repeated at the age of 3 months.

Diphtheria and Whooping Cough immunisations continued to be carried out at eight of the centres; no additional child welfare centres were provided during the year, the number remaining at eleven, providing fourteen sessions weekly.

### NUMBER OF CONSULTATIONS, WEIGHINGS, ETC., AT CHILD WELFARE CENTRES, DURING THE YEAR 1959

Centre	Number of Sessions	Attendances				Medical Officer's Consultations	
		0-1 years		1-5 years			
		1st	Sub.	1st	Sub.	Under 1 year	1-5 years
Dallow Road ...	48	254	2,269	14	469	733	217
Stopsley ...	104	323	4,107	13	829	529	222
Leagrave High St.	50	134	2,007	11	416	123	79
„ Marsh Rd.	52	155	3,114	8	578	565	173
Round Green ...	52	105	2,040	2	405	200	52
Castle Street ...	52	156	2,271	12	594	328	99
Beechwood ...	102	307	4,290	16	1,045	606	194
Limbury ...	100	219	3,135	12	650	460	162
St. Anne's ...	48	164	1,959	2	400	218	90
Farley Hill ...	52	119	1,865	7	517	329	145
Park Street ...	50	90	1,572	5	327	210	68
Total	710	2,026	28,629	102	6,230	4,301	1,501

### (b) Toddlers' Clinics

It is encouraging to record that attendances at the Toddlers' Clinics have continued to increase each year since they were first held in September, 1955. The attendances in 1956 (the first full year) represented only 34% of those invited to attend.

The purpose of the clinics is to enable a medical officer to see each child before he reaches school age and parents are specially invited to bring their children to the clinic during the month when they attain their third birthday.



	1959	1958
No. of invitations to attend	1,659	1,504
No. of attendances ... ..	770 (46.4%)	675 (44.8%)
Type of defect:—		
Orthopaedic ... ..	102	97
Ear, Nose and Throat	35	18
Dental ... ..	—	1
Skin ... ..	7	20
Vision ... ..	15	16
Other ... ..	31	100
Multiple ... ..	29	37
	<hr/> 219	<hr/> 289

### (c) Contraceptive Clinic

All patients are referred to the contraceptive clinic by medical practitioners.

Fifty-two sessions were held and there were 221 new patients. Subsequent attendances totalled 846.

### (d) Orthopaedic and Ophthalmic Clinics

Children under the age of five years requiring Orthopaedic or Ophthalmic treatment are referred to the ordinary School Clinic sessions.

#### (i) Orthopaedic Clinic

	Under 1 year	1-5 years	Total
No. of first attendances ... ..	8	22	30
No. of subsequent attendances ... ..	1	34	35
Total attendances ... ..	9	56	65

#### Classification

#### No. of Cases Attendances

Bow Legs ... ..	3	5
Knock Knees ... ..	10	16
Everted Feet ... ..	2	2
Gait ... ..	4	5
Flat Feet ... ..	2	3
Congenital Deformities ... ..	3	6
Intoeing ... ..	2	3
Scoliosis ... ..	1	1
Spastic ... ..	1	2
Other ... ..	18	22
	<hr/> 46	<hr/> 65

*Disposal*

No. of cases referred for exercises	...	...	...	...	1
No. of cases referred for X-ray examination	...	...	...	...	4
No. of cases referred for admission to hospital	...	...	...	...	8
No. of cases discharged	...	...	...	...	6

*(ii) Ophthalmic Clinic*

	Under 1 year	1-5 years	Total
No. of first attendances ...	15	65	80
No. of subsequent attendances ...	6	198	204
Total attendances ...	21	263	284

	Errors of Refraction and Squint	Other diseases or defects	Prescription for Spectacles
No. of first attendances ...	67	13	33
No. of subsequent attendances ...	198	6	24

Nine children were referred to Hospital for advice or treatment.

*(e) Dental Clinic*

There are now two Dental Surgeons on the full-time establishment of the school health service and expectant and nursing mothers and children under five years of age attend ordinary School Clinic sessions for treatment.

During the year a total of 118 patients were seen as follows:—

	No. examined	Needing Treatment	Treated	Treatment Provided					
				Scaling	Fillings	Extractions	Genl. Anaes.	Dentures	Radio-graphy
Expectant and nursing mothers	54	54	54	15	68	179	24	25	14
Children under five ...	64	58	58	—	14	103	42	—	—

*(f) Premature Infants*

A premature infant is defined as one weighing 5½ lbs. or less at birth. The term includes, therefore, somewhat small, but healthy babies who require little more than ordinary care and management, and, on the other hand, infants who are so small that they have little chance of surviving however much care they are given.

Between these extremes are infants who, with expert attention, have a good chance of becoming healthy, vigorous babies, but who would probably not survive the ordinary rigours of early life which the normal baby meets without harm.

Special arrangements for the care of premature infants in their homes are made within the midwifery service, and infants who cannot be cared for at home are admitted to hospital.

Premature births which were registered during the year are analysed in the table overleaf according to place of birth, and birth weight.

### Place of Birth

#### *Registered Births*

Born in Maternity Institutions:—

(a) Under control of North-West Regional Hospital Board	104
(b) Other ... ..	9
Born at home ... ..	41
Total ... ..	<u>154</u>

#### (g) **Day Nurseries**

The three day nurseries in Luton provide accommodation for 140 children—50 at each of the Alder Crescent and Manor Road Nurseries and 40 at the Stopsley Nursery.

Except in the most urgent cases all applications are considered by a special Sub-Committee before admission to the nursery. During the year, the Committee approved the admission of 195 children. Admission was refused in 47 cases.

The average attendance at the nurseries was 106 per day—75% of all child places. The average length of stay of a child in the nursery was approximately 18 weeks.

All three nurseries are recognised by the Ministry of Health as suitable for the training of Nursery Students and during the year two students were successful in obtaining the Certificate of the National Nursery Examination Board. Four students were in training at the end of the year.

**REGISTERED PREMATURE INFANTS\***  
**CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO BIRTH WEIGHT**

	2 lb. 3 oz. or less			Over 2 lb. 3 oz. to 3 lb. 4 oz.			Over 3 lb. 4 oz. to 4 lb. 6 oz.			Over 4 lb. 6 oz. to 4 lb. 15 oz.			Over 4 lb. 15 oz. to 5 lb. 8 oz.			All		Total
	D	NH	I	D	NH	I	D	NH	I	D	NH	I	D	NH	I			
Number ... ..	—	—	2	1	—	4	5	2	25	6	1	26	29	6	47	D	I	154
Number surviving after 24 hours	—	—	1	1	—	3	5	2	23	6	1	26	29	6	46	41	99	149
Number surviving after 8 days	—	—	1	—	—	2	5	2	22	6	1	25	27	6	46	38	96	143
Number surviving at 4 weeks	—	—	1	—	—	2	5	2	22	6	1	25	26	6	46	37	96	142

\* Corrected for inward and outward transfers.

D—Domiciliary.    NH—Nursing Home.    I—Institutional.

Attendances	Alder Crescent	Manor Road	Stopsley
No. of Children on Register 1.1.59 ...	49	53	43
No. added to Register ... ..	68	58	69
No. removed from Register ... ..	75	72	62
No. remaining on Register 31.12.59	42	39	50
No. of Sessions ... ..	254	255	255
Attendances—0-2 years ... ..	2,512	1,337	3,081
2-5 years ... ..	6,358	8,066	5,508
Total attendances ... ..	8,870	9,403	8,589
Average daily attendances ... .. (Monday-Friday)	35	37	34

The following table shows the reasons for admissions to the nurseries during 1959:—

Categories	No. on Register 1.1.59	No. admitted during 1959	No. on Register 31.12.59
Illness of Parents ... ..	23	37	13
Debilitated Children ... ..	2	2	3
Confinement ... ..	13	26	13
Illegitimacy ... ..	23	24	27
Children of Widows/Widowers ...	3	1	2
Parents separated ... ..	21	35	40
Father in H.M. Forces ... ..	—	2	1
Adverse housing conditions, poor financial circumstances, etc. ...	60	68	32
Total ... ..	145	195	131

The following table shows, by categories, the average number of days (Monday to Friday) each child was in the nursery.

Categories	No. of Children	No. of Days	Average number of days
Illness of Parents ... ..	60	3,539	59
Debilitated Children ... ..	4	607	151
Confinement ... ..	39	2,494	64
Illegitimacy ... ..	47	4,707	100
Children of Widows/Widowers ...	4	398	100
Parents separated ... ..	56	5,732	102
Father in H.M. Forces ... ..	2	366	183
Adverse housing conditions ... ..	10	1,172	117
Poor financial circumstances ... ..	107	6,839	64
Other ... ..	11	1,008	92
Total ... ..	340	26,862	79

The charge for admission to a nursery is calculated on remaining income after deducting normal household expenses from total income.

The following table shows the fees charged during 1959.

Assessable Income	Charge per day	Attending during 1959			
		Alder Crescent	Manor Road	Stopsley	Total
Up to £2 ...	1/6d.	56	55	65	176
£2—£5 ...	1/9d.—3/0d.	24	13	15	52
£5—£8 5s. 0d.	3/3d.—5/9d.	30	24	24	78
£8 5s. 0d.—£10	6/3d.—9/3d.	7	19	8	34
Total ...	... ..	117	111	112	340

#### (h) Nurseries and Child Minders Regulation Act, 1948

There were no new registrations during the year, but one Child Minder left her address and her registration was cancelled. There remained on the register, therefore, at the end of the year, three Child Minders to receive twenty children, and one registered Private Day Nursery to receive twenty-five children.

### SECTION 23—MIDWIFERY

#### (a) Work of the Local Health Authority Ante-natal Clinic

The medical supervision of women who have made arrangements to be confined at home is mainly carried out by general medical practitioners, whilst the care of women who have booked for hospital confinement is undertaken by the hospital consultant service. Of 54 medical practitioners in the Luton area, 49 undertake ante-natal care for all their domiciliary booked cases. Five practitioners who either do not undertake ante-natal care or who do so for only a proportion of their patients, refer home confinement cases to the Local Health Authority ante-natal clinic held weekly at the Central Clinic, Dallow Road, and are attended by midwives at home under normal circumstances. In the event of any complication or emergency, the midwife may call in the patient's medical practitioner, or failing this any other medical practitioner on the list of practitioners having obstetric experience. There are 37 Luton doctors on the obstetric list. The course of action in each case depends upon prior arrangements between individual doctors and midwives. In an extreme emergency (e.g. severe haemorrhage) the midwife may summon the emergency obstetric service provided by the hospital maternity services.

The Local Health Authority ante-natal clinic (which is a midwives consultative clinic staffed by a medical officer of the Local Health Authority for the hospital obstetrician) is concerned with two groups of expectant mothers. Firstly, those referred by medical practitioners who have accepted responsibility for the maternity medical service of the patient, to have samples of blood taken for routine examination. The results of the blood tests are forwarded to the patient's medical practitioner. Two hundred and fifty mothers attended for their first routine blood tests in 1959. Arrangements are also made, where necessary, for chest X-ray examinations. The second



and smaller group consists of women who have not booked a doctor or whose medical practitioner refers them for full ante-natal care. Examinations are performed by a medical officer at periodic intervals throughout pregnancy and a post-natal examination made six weeks after delivery. Eleven new patients attended for full ante-natal care and post-natal examinations were made in the year. Expectant mothers seen at the Consultative Clinic and found to be suffering from any complication or abnormality necessitating a further opinion or hospital care are referred to one of the hospital ante-natal sessions, where the advice of an obstetric consultant is available.

The work of the Local Health Authority ante-natal clinic is tabulated below:—

LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY (MIDWIVES CONSULTATIVE)  
ANTE-NATAL CLINIC 1959

Number of clinics	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	51
Number of new patients:—								
Blood taking only	...	...	...	...	...	...	250	
Ante-natal care	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	
							—	261
Total number of attendances	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	416
Average attendances per session	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Total number of ante-natal examinations	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	77
Number of post-natal examinations	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
„ „ blood samples taken	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	349
„ „ blood samples taken where rhesus antibodies detected	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
„ „ rhesus positive cases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	230
„ „ rhesus negative	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	61
„ „ patients rhesus factor not available	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
„ „ W.R. and Kahn positive cases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
„ „ chest X-rays arranged	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	49
„ „ patients where abnormality found at chest X-ray	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

The details of subsequent confinements in 1959 of mothers who attended for ante-natal care at the Local Health Authority clinic is shown in the following table:—

Number of mothers in year where no G.P. booked	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Number of stillbirths:—							
(a) foetal malformation	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
(b) cause unknown	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
							—
Emergency obstetrical service called	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
							Nil

## Medical Aid:—

Perineal tear      ...      ...      ...      ...      ...      ...      1

Of 302 blood samples taken at the Central Clinic for the *first* time during pregnancy in 1959, 299 results are available. The following tables show the distribution of haemoglobin levels. A level below 80% generally indicates some degree of anaemia; 126 or 42.1% fell below this level.

Haemoglobin level						Number of cases
45- 49%	...	...	...	...	...	1
50- 54%	...	...	...	...	...	—
55- 59%	...	...	...	...	...	1
60- 64%	...	...	...	...	...	9
65- 69%	...	...	...	...	...	12
70- 74%	...	...	...	...	...	49
75- 79%	...	...	...	...	...	54
80- 84%	...	...	...	...	...	68
85- 89%	...	...	...	...	...	50
90- 94%	...	...	...	...	...	29
95- 99%	...	...	...	...	...	16
100-104%	...	...	...	...	...	8
105-109%	...	...	...	...	...	2
All Groups	...	...	...	...	...	299

### Mean Haemoglobin levels related to period of gestation

Period of gestation at first visit week(s)	No. of patients	Mean Hb. level (per cent)	Per cent of patients with Hb. level below 10.15 g. per 100 m.l. (70%)	Per cent of patients with Hb. level below 8.7 g. per 100 m.l. (60%)
0-12 ...	12	84.6	—	—
13-24 ...	167	83.3	3.6	—
25-36 ...	107	78.0	11.2	0.9
Over 36 ...	5	72.4	20.0	—
Not stated	8	80.7	12.5	12.5

### (b) Domiciliary Midwifery

Owing to the increasing commitments of the domiciliary midwifery service, the establishment of midwives was increased during the year from ten to thirteen. In the event, midwives in Luton were called upon to attend the highest ever number of confinements in one year. The total of 1,000 deliveries in 1959 shows an increase of 158 over the previous year, and represents an increase of 76% over the 1954 figures.



As was to be expected, the total number of visits made to patients increased by 3,828 compared with the year 1958.

Analgesia was administered to 877 patients (87%). It was not possible for analgesia to be given in the remaining 123 cases for the following reasons:—

Precipitate labour      ...      120

Unbooked emergency case      ...      3

Part II pupil midwives from the Luton Maternity Hospital continued to receive district training with the domiciliary midwives and during the year 31 pupil midwives undertook their domiciliary training in Luton.

### Summary of Work of Domiciliary Midwives during 1959

	Midwife only present at time of delivery of child	Doctor and Midwife present at time of delivery of child	All
Number of deliveries attended	665	335	1,000
Administration of Analgesia:			
Gas and Air only ... ..	185	48	233
Pethidine only ... ..	52	21	73
Pethidine and Trilene ... ..	33	28	61
Gas and Air and Pethidine	269	170	439
General anaesthetic ... ..	—	31	31
Trilene only ... ..	27	12	39
No analgesia ... ..	99	25	124
Total ... ..	665	335	1,000

### Visits

Visits	DISTRICT										All
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10*	
Pre-natal	700	583	235	502	526	596	739	573	671	35	5,160
Labour ...	182	310	129	212	258	331	372	468	285	29	2,576
Lying-in Period ...	2,416	1,731	1,394	2,626	2,496	3,148	3,046	1,996	2,842	290	21,985
Totals	3,298	2,624	1,758	3,340	3,280	4,075	4,157	3,037	3,798	354	29,721

\* District commenced 29.11.59.

Number of maternal deaths	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Number of infantile deaths	...	...	...	...	...	4
Consultant Clinics:						
Number held	...	...	...	...	...	51
Attendances made by Patients: (a) Ante-natal	...	...	...	...	407	
(b) Post-natal	...	...	...	...	10	
					—	417
Midwives Clinics:						
Number held	...	...	...	...	...	232
Attendances made by Patients	...	...	...	...	4,902	
Cases in which Medical Aid was sought	...	...	...	...	...	53

### NOTIFICATIONS RECEIVED FROM MIDWIVES DURING THE YEAR 1959

	Nursing Homes	Domiciliary Midwives	Maternity Hospital and Extension	Independent Practice	Total
(a) Intention to practice	7	12	29	3	51
(b) Intention to cease practice ...	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Change of address	—	—	—	—	—
(d) Change of name ...	—	—	—	—	—
(e) Sending for medical help ...	—	53	—	—	53
(f) Stillbirths occurring in practice ...	—	6	—	—	6
(g) Deaths occurring in practice—					
(i) Mothers ...	—	—	—	—	—
(ii) Infants ...	—	1	—	—	1
(h) Laying out the dead	—	2	—	—	2
(i) Liability to be a source of infection	—	2	—	—	2
(j) Substitution of artificial feeding ...	65	56	209	—	330

### Distribution of Midwives, 31st December, 1959

(a) In Private Nursing Homes	...	...	...	3
(b) Domiciliary Midwives	...	...	...	13
(c) Maternity Hospital and Ext.	...	...	...	24
(d) Private Practice (Independent)	...	...	...	1

## SECTION 24—HEALTH VISITING

Although two health visitors resigned their appointments during the year, it was possible to recruit two others, and as a result the number of health visitors on the staff at the end of the year remained at nine full-time and one part-time visitor against an establishment of sixteen. The policy of employing State Registered Nurses to work under the direction of individual health visitors was continued.

### HOME VISITS BY HEALTH VISITORS

	Children under 1 year		Children 1-5 years		Expectant Mothers		Special Visits Infectious Disease, etc.	Infant Life Protection	Total Visits
	First Visits	Re-Visits	First Visits	Re-Visits	First Visits	Re-Visits			
1950	1,748	3,274	175	7,987	2	—	4,473	169	17,828
1951	1,782	5,226	80	13,709	1	—	984	152	21,934
1952	1,756	6,881	25	13,163	63	—	1,346	61	23,295
1953	1,683	6,801	30	13,157	62	—	963	75	22,771
1954	1,536	7,010	30	16,363	22	16	345	10	23,812
1955	1,690	6,796	101	15,261	55	—	1,151	15	25,069
1956	1,869	7,471	122	14,216	—	—	1,089	7	24,774
1957	2,038	5,832	225	10,190	17	18	1,608	2	19,930
1958	2,293	6,447	279	10,913	16	27	1,858	1	21,834
1959	2,648	7,163	376	11,294	16	16	2,394	—	*23,907

\* In addition, 1,369 non-effective calls, not included above, were made.

## NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO CHILDREN

During the year Inspectors of the N.S.P.C.C. dealt with 12 cases at the request of the Department. These consisted of 8 cases of neglect and 3 of ill-treatment and 1 where advice was given. Thirty-five children were involved and 69 visits of supervision were made.

## SECTION 25—HOME NURSING SERVICE

The number of requests for the services of a district nurse has remained fairly steady over recent years. During 1959 more than half were for nursing aged persons, but only 35% of the total 1,443 patients required attention for periods of longer than one month.

The total number of visits made during the year was 45,392—an average of 31 visits per patient.

The appointment of a male district nurse in March completed the establishment of district nurses—12 female and 2 male.

### NUMBER OF CASES ATTENDED

Type of Case	District												All
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
Acute Medical	36	44	38	32	28	35	32	46	24	36	25	33	409
Chronic Medical	65	67	56	34	63	80	70	56	66	42	62	71	732
Surgical ...	32	18	24	17	29	19	23	27	16	15	25	31	276
Tuberculosis ...	2	—	1	2	2	—	1	4	1	2	2	4	21
Infectious disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Abortion ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2
Other ...	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	3
Totals ...	136	130	119	85	122	135	126	134	107	95	114	140	1,443

### NUMBER OF VISITS

Type of Case	District												All
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
Acute Medical	232	535	358	413	302	385	233	425	434	296	388	562	4,563
Chronic Medical	3,001	2,187	2,487	1,770	2,373	3,033	2,360	1,820	2,552	2,644	2,789	3,446	30,462
Surgical ...	1,153	362	853	582	847	723	789	804	1,159	331	1,294	807	9,704
Tuberculosis ...	111	—	13	35	42	—	27	177	46	21	19	151	642
Infectious disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Abortion ...	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	14
Other ...	3	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	7
Totals ...	4,500	3,091	3,711	2,800	3,564	4,144	3,409	3,233	4,191	3,292	4,490	4,967	45,392

### CASES ATTENDED BY TYPE, AGE AND SEX

Type	Male						Female						All
	Ages in Years						Ages in Years						
	0-4	5-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65 -	0-4	5-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65 -	
Cardio-vascular Lesions	—	—	1	1	12	35	—	—	—	5	19	58	131
Genito-urinary Condi- tion ... ..	—	—	—	—	2	10	—	—	3	15	4	3	37
Neoplasm ... ..	—	—	—	1	15	24	—	—	1	—	18	25	84
Respiratory T.B. ...	—	1	1	3	3	2	—	—	1	5	3	—	19
Surgical T.B. ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2
Other Respiratory In- fections ... ..	1	—	—	—	20	19	—	—	—	4	11	34	89
Other Infections ...	2	1	1	8	—	1	—	—	2	5	4	2	26
Gastro-intestinal Dis- orders ... ..	2	4	2	9	15	13	3	1	5	13	18	39	124
Preparation for X-ray	—	—	2	15	27	15	—	3	1	17	35	14	129
Post Operative Treat- ment ... ..	4	2	3	10	30	41	—	1	15	19	26	26	177
Rheumatism and Arth- ritis ... ..	—	—	—	1	—	5	—	—	—	4	7	17	34
Blood Diseases ...	—	—	—	—	7	8	1	—	2	17	11	23	69
Diabetes ... ..	—	—	—	—	2	12	—	—	1	1	13	39	68
Accident and injuries	—	2	2	1	—	6	2	—	—	1	10	19	43
Senility ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	31	—	—	—	—	1	99	131
Skin Diseases ...	—	1	—	—	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	6	17
Gynaecology ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	4	21	30
Hemiplegia ...	—	—	—	—	5	21	—	—	—	—	8	63	100
Ear, Nose and Throat	6	2	4	7	—	—	5	2	1	4	3	—	34
Varicose Ulcers ...	—	—	—	—	6	2	—	—	1	2	4	6	21
Disorders of Nervous System ... ..	—	—	—	3	9	7	1	—	1	7	3	8	39
Other Conditions ...	3	1	1	3	6	7	1	1	1	—	6	9	39
Total ... ..	18	11	17	62	161	263	14	9	39	125	210	511	1,443

## DURATION OF NURSING CARE (Completed cases only)

Type of Cases	7 days or less	8-28 days	1-3 months	3-6 months	Over 6 months	All
Acute Medical ...	252	72	39	14	8	385
Chronic Medical ...	136	142	114	52	86	530
Surgical ...	34	92	57	19	24	231
Tuberculosis ...	1	4	6	3	3	17
Infectious Disease ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Abortion ...	1	1	—	—	—	2
Other ...	1	—	1	—	—	2
Total ...	425	311	217	88	126	1,167

## SECTION 26—VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

### Vaccination

#### (a) *Smallpox*

Once again there has been an increase in the number of primary vaccinations over the preceding year. This trend first became evident in 1957.

Of particular note is the increase in the number of children under the age of one year who were vaccinated. In this age group the total of 1,034 successful vaccinations represents 43% of the registered live births in 1959.

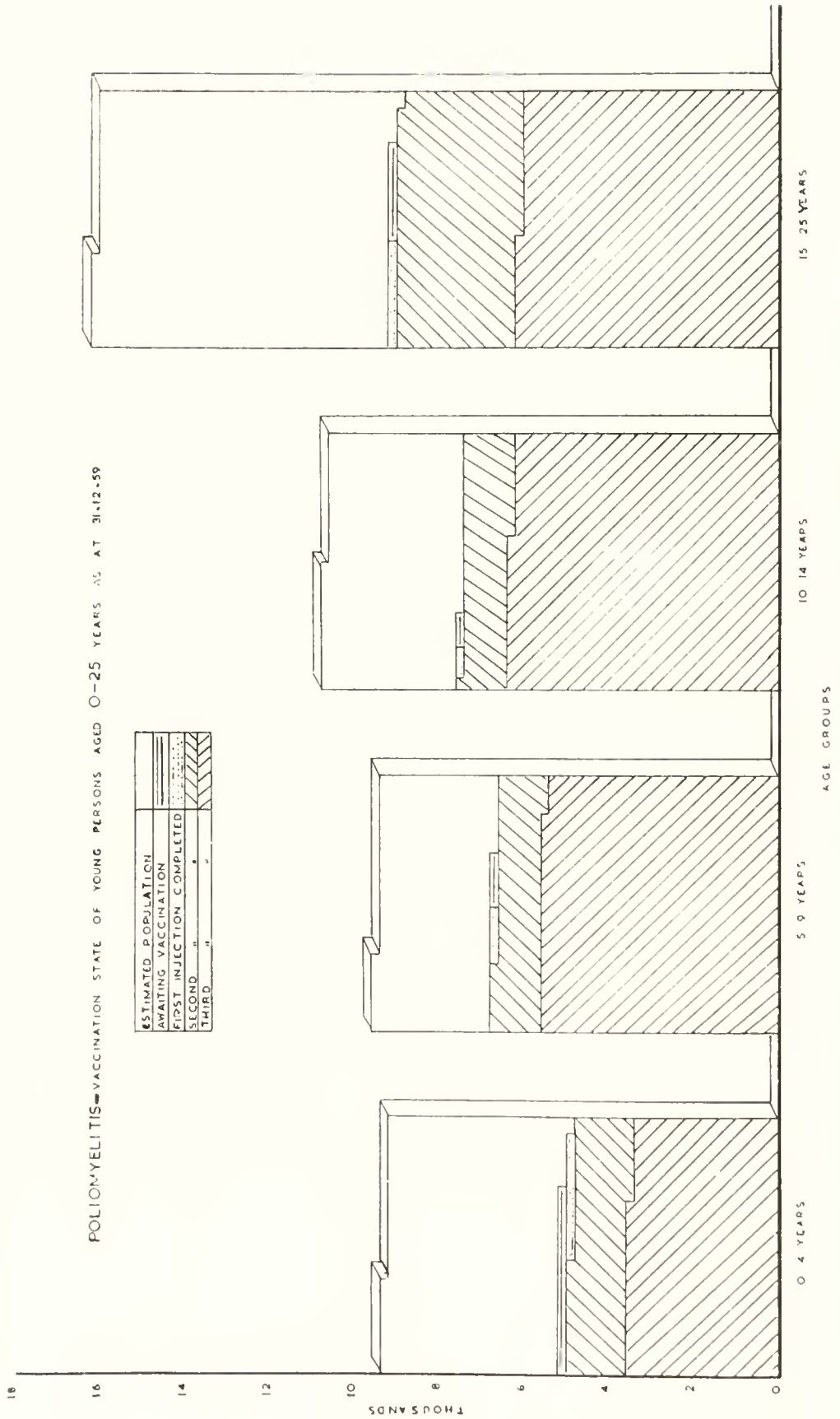
	Under 1 year	1 year	2-4 years	5-14 years	15 years and over	Total
Primary vaccination	1034	53	46	104	174	1,411
Re-vaccination ...	—	—	5	36	228	269
Totals ...	1034	53	51	140	402	1,680

#### (b) *Poliomyelitis*

At the beginning of the year only 1,541 persons were awaiting their first injection, and 3,969 persons their second injection, against poliomyelitis. Arrangements were already in hand for this to be done in order that efforts could be concentrated in giving the third injection to the 12,043 persons who had previously received two injections.

In April, May and June, however, the scheme was given added impetus and the department was inundated with requests for vaccination. During this three month period, medical officers gave a total of more than 15,000 injections.

POLIOMYELITIS—VACCINATION STATE OF YOUNG PERSONS AGED 0-25 YEARS AS AT 31.12.59





The total number of injections given during the year was 43,949 (6,466 by general medical practitioners) to 27,195 persons as follows:—

Class	Persons vaccinated in 1959			Awaiting vaccination at end of year
	First Injections	Second Injections	Third Injections	
Children born in the years 1953-59 ... ..	153	3,709	15,146	189
Young persons born in the years 1933-42 ... ..	96	2836	4,475	95
Expectant mothers ...	10	70	556	8
General Practitioners and families ... ..	—	—	56	—
Ambulance Staff and families ... ..	—	1	9	—
Hospital Staff and families ... ..	1	2	15	—
Totals ...	260	6,618	20,317	292

It is now estimated that twenty eight thousand and thirty persons in the 0-25 year age group (excluding expectant mothers and other groups) have now received two or more doses of vaccine, an increase of 11,915 during the year.

Age at 31.12.59	Under 1 year	1 year	2 years	3 years	4 years	5-9 years	10-14 years	15-25 years	TOTAL
No. of persons who have received two or more injections	116	932	1,400	1,387	1,291	6,548	7,369	8,987	28,030
Estimated population	9,245					9,413	10,628	16,066	45,352

The following table shows the percentage of the population vaccinated with two or more doses:—

Age Groups	0-4 years	5-9 years	10-14 years	15-25 years	Total under 25 years
Percentage ...	56.5%	69.5%	69.3%	55.9%	61.8%

## Immunisation

There was a slight increase in the number of children immunised against Diphtheria and/or Whooping Cough, but this increase was not in proportion to the increased number of births, and it is estimated that only 31·0% of those eligible received protection as compared with 32·5% in 1958. There was also a decrease in the number of re-inforcing courses given.

It is estimated that 75% of the population under 15 years is protected against diphtheria.

No. of immunisation sessions held at clinics	...	...	...	380
No. of children immunised at clinics				
Diphtheria only	...	...	...	101
Diphtheria and Whooping Cough	...	...	...	964
Whooping Cough only	...	...	...	7
			—	1,072
No. of children immunised by general practitioners				
Diphtheria only	...	...	...	17
Diphtheria and Whooping Cough	...	...	...	929
Whooping Cough only	...	...	...	13
			—	959
Total number of children protected against Diphtheria	...			2,011
Total number of children protected against Whooping Cough				1,913
No. of re-inforcing sessions held at schools	...	...	...	32
No. of re-inforcing courses at clinics	...	...	...	35
No. of re-inforcing courses at schools	...	...	...	822
No. of re-inforcing courses by general practitioners	...	...	...	187
Total number of re-inforcing courses	...	...	...	1,044

## Percentage of child population who had completed a full course of immunisation at any time up to 31st December, 1959.

Age group	Under 1 year	1-4 years	5-14 years	Total under 15
Estimated percentage immunised	31·1%	76·1%	78·4%	75·7%

## DIPHTHERIA IMMUNITY INDEX

Age on 31.12.59 (i.e. born in year)	Under 1 1959	1-4 1955-1958	5-9 1950-1954	10-14 1945-1949	Total Under 15
A. Number of children whose last course (primary or booster) was completed in the period 1955-1959	384	6,091	5,876	744	13,095
B. Number of children whose last course (primary or booster) was completed in the period 1954 or earlier	—	—	1,123	7,977	9,100
C. Estimated mid-year child population	1,237	8,008	20,041		29,286
Immunity index 100 A C	31·0%	76·1%	33·0%		44·7%



## SECTION 29—DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE

Over recent years there has been a steady but increasing demand for home help assistance as the following comparative table shows:—

Year	Preg. and Conf.		Tub.		Chron. Illness		Hosp. or Ex-Hosp.		Emerg. Illness		Aged Persons		Total	
	*C	*H	C	H	C	H	C	H	C	H	C	H	C	H
1956	170	7,832	11	1,147	38	7,816	76	4,082	104	5,320	335	53,781	734	79,978
1957	169	7,456	5	452	50	7,692	85	5,281	123	7,720	344	59,205	776	87,806
1958	166	7,665	2	340	30	5,414	75	2,366	97	6,148	402	69,661	772	91,594
1959	210	9,432	2	201	34	6,007	57	3,364	103	2,809	453	73,961	859	95,774

\* C = Cases

\* H = Hours

Maternity cases showed a marked increase over previous years but this was only to be expected with the increased number of domiciliary confinements. Once again the cases assisted were mainly aged persons (52·8%), but it should be appreciated that but for this help, and nursing attention from the District Nurses, many old persons would find it difficult to cope on their own and might need to be admitted to hospital.

Of the 329 cases who had been receiving help for more than a year, 44 had been assisted for more than five years.

Cases being served at beginning of 1959	...	...	353
Cases commenced during year	...	...	472
Cases discontinued during year	...	...	416
Cases being served at end of 1959	...	...	387

## AMOUNT OF ASSISTANCE PROVIDED WEEKLY

Type of Case	Up to 8 hours	8-12 hours	12-20 hours	20-30 hours	Over 30 hours	Total	% of Whole
Pregnancy and Confinement	17	18	90	15	70	210	24·4
Tuberculosis ... ..	2	—	—	—	—	2	0·2
Chronic Illness ... ..	27	7	—	—	—	34	4·0
Hospital, or Ex-Hospital ...	44	8	4	1	—	57	6·6
Emergency, or other Illness	66	21	13	2	1	103	12·0
Aged Persons ... ..	410	40	3	—	—	453	52·8
Total ... ..	566	94	110	18	71	859	100·0
Percentage of whole ...	65·9	10·9	12·8	2·1	8·3	100·0	—

### LENGTH OF TIME ASSISTANCE PROVIDED

Type of Case	Up to 4 weeks	1-3 months	3-6 months	6-12 months	Over 12 months	Total
Pregnancy and Confinement	198	10	1	1	—	210
Tuberculosis ... ..	—	—	—	—	2	2
Chronic Illness ... ..	1	2	3	7	21	34
Hospital, or Ex-Hospital ...	19	26	6	3	3	57
Emergency, or Other Illness	47	33	8	7	8	103
Aged Persons ... ..	22	47	28	61	295	453
Total ... ..	287	118	46	79	329	859
Percentage of whole ...	33.4	13.7	5.4	9.2	38.3	100.0

### AVERAGE AMOUNT OF ASSISTANCE PER CASE

Type of Case	No. of Cases	Total No. of Weeks Assistance	Average Duration of Assistance	Total No. of Hours Assistance	Average Weekly Assistance
Pregnancy and Confinement	210	479	2.3 weeks	9,432	19.7 hours
Tuberculous ...	2	36	18.0 weeks	201	5.6 hours
Chronic Illness	34	1,117	3.3 weeks	6,007	5.4 hours
Hospital or Ex-Hospital ...	57	530	9.3 weeks	3,364	6.3 hours
Emergency or other Illness	103	703	6.8 weeks	2,809	4.0 hours
Aged Persons	453	10,972	24.2 weeks	73,961	6.7 hours
Total ...	859	13,837	—	95,774	—

### INCOME GROUPS

Gross Income	Up to 8 hrs.			8-12 hrs.			12-20 hrs.			20-30 hrs.			Over 30 hrs.			TOTAL
	Free	Assd.	Full rate	Free	Assd.	Full rate	Free	Assd.	Full rate	Free	Assd.	Full rate	Free	Assd.	Full rate	
Pensions, etc.	225	147	—	13	9	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	395
Others under £5 ...	10	36	1	3	6	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	58
£5-£6 ...	1	6	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9
£6-£7 ...	—	9	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12
£7-£9 ...	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	4
£9-£10 ...	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	9	—	16
£10 and over	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	1	—	—	17	8	30
Income not disclosed	—	—	145	—	—	42	—	—	96	—	—	16	—	1	35	335
Total ...	236	205	147	16	18	42	—	9	96	—	2	16	1	28	43	859

Number of cases in which full fee was not charged:

(a) Maternity cases ...	...	...	41				
(b) Tuberculous cases	...	...	2				
(c) Other cases	...	...	472				
			—	Total	...	515	

Cost to local authority of assessed cases ... .. £11,237

Number of Home Helps employed at end of year:

Full-time	...	...	...	24			
Part-time	...	...	...	66	Total	...	90

Night Sitters-up attended 12 cases on 107 occasions during the year.



**ENVIRONMENTAL  
HEALTH SERVICES**

# REPORT

of the

## Chief Public Health Inspector

Public Health Department  
63-69 Guildford Street,  
LUTON.

*February, 1960.*

His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and  
Councillors of the Borough of Luton.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The end of 1959 saw the completion of the first five-year stage of the Council's clearance programme of unfit houses. In the Return submitted to the Minister of Housing and Local Government in 1954 it was proposed that 384 houses should be demolished in the first five years and 299 in the following five years. During the first phase, however, 428 houses were in fact closed or demolished, but a more recent survey has shown that the number still to be dealt with is substantially larger than the figure contained in the Return. This is due in part to further deterioration of houses not previously scheduled but now able to be classified unfit, and also to the continued subsidence of those in the Lea Road Area.

Section 3 of the Slaughterhouses Act, 1958, required the local authority to review the existing slaughterhouse facilities and report on these and any future needs. The Public Health Committee appointed a special Sub-Committee to prepare the report. Consultations were held with the Luton and District Retail Butchers' Association, the principal users of the Municipal Slaughterhouse, the proprietors of the two existing private slaughterhouses, Livestock Auctioneers, National Farmers' Union, the Fat Stock Marketing Corporation and the Co-operative Section and the Area Officer of the Union of Shop Distributive and Allied Workers. In addition, consultations were held at officer level with 17 neighbouring local authorities. During the course of these discussions the Council agreed to sell the land on which the present temporary Municipal Abattoir is sited, and the Committee took into consideration the provision of a new Municipal Abattoir to replace the existing one.

The Report prepared for submission to the Minister recommends that the date on which the construction regulations should apply will be 1st January, 1962, with the proviso that if the new Municipal Abattoir is not then ready for use the date shall be deferred until it is so ready. This will enable the proprietors of one private slaughterhouse, whose premises are likely to be demolished in the Central Area Redevelopment Plan, to have accommodation in the new Abattoir without having to alter their existing premises. The other private slaughterhouse will have been made to comply with the regulations by that date.

In planning the new Abattoir the Committee had regard to the modern design of abattoir premises, and the approved schedule of accommodation therefore includes the provision of extensive covered lairage, a well-planned slaughterhouse and a refrigerated hanging room, as well as by-product and ancillary rooms. There are also provided offices, a mess room and adequate toilet facilities. At the end of the year the Sub-Committee had finished their deliberations and the draft Slaughterhouse Report was ready for consideration by the full Public Health Committee.

The Council's plan for the first Smoke Control Area was taken a stage further during the year. An Order was made in July and objections were lodged by coal merchants with offices in the area and 145 other persons who were mainly householders. A Public Inquiry was held in December and the decision of the Minister is awaited.

For the greater part of the year the Department had a full complement of Public Health Inspectors. This is reflected in the number of visits paid to premises, there being an increase of more than 3,000 over the previous year.

I wish again to record my thanks to the inspectorate and clerical staffs for their continued loyalty and support.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

G. F. MACEFIELD,

*Chief Public Health Inspector.*

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

### GENERAL

The area of the borough is 8,773 acres and the present estimated population is 120,500. The surface is undulating, the town having been built substantially in a valley in the Chiltern Hills, usually described as the "Lee Gap". The surface level varies from some 330 feet above sea level to a little more than 600 feet above sea level.

The principal industries are the manufacture of private and commercial motor vehicles and associated trades, chemicals, electric cookers, gas and electric refrigerators, and hats.

*Meteorology.*—The Luton Meteorological Station, which is under the control of the Borough Engineer, is situated in Wardown Park, New Bedford Road. During the year the following observations were taken:—

*Sunshine.*—1,687·6 hours of sunshine were recorded, the sunniest day being 17th June, 1959, when 14·8 hours were recorded.

*Rainfall.*—The total rainfall recorded was 24·02 inches, the wettest day being 10th July, 1959, when 2·33 inches of rain were recorded.

*Temperatures.*—The maximum temperature was 89°F., recorded on 5th July, 1959, and the minimum temperature was 19°F., recorded on 17th January, 1959.

*Wind.*—The prevailing wind was South-West.

### WATER SUPPLY

The following information has been kindly supplied by the Engineer and Manager to the Luton Water Company.

	1958	1959
	<i>million</i>	<i>million</i>
	<i>gallons</i>	<i>gallons</i>
(1) Estimated total consumption for Borough ...	2,240	2,349
(2) Estimated unmetered consumption for Borough ... ..	1,310	1,384
(3) Estimated metered consumption for Borough	930	965
(4) Average Chlorination rate ... ..	0·25 p.p.m.	0·25 p.p.m.

"Based upon the Registrar-General's estimated population for the Borough of 120,500 at mid-1959, the above figures represent average daily consumption per capita as under (corresponding figures for 1958 in parentheses):—

	<i>gallons per head</i>
	<i>per day</i>
Domestic and unmetered trade purposes ... ..	31·5 (30·3)
Metered trade purposes ... ..	21·9 (21·5)
Total ... ..	53·4 (51·8)

### Resources and Future Development

"In accordance with the general policy and recommendation of the Minister of Housing and Local Government to reduce the number of water undertakings to produce larger and stronger units, negotiations have proceeded with the Eastern Gas Board—in their capacity of Water Undertakers



for Dunstable—to transfer the Dunstable Water Undertaking to the Luton Water Company. It is anticipated that this transfer will become operative in the near future.

“The combined demand of the Luton/Dunstable area already equals, as an average over the year, the combined long term resources of the area, and at times of summer peak demand exceeds those resources. The potentialities of locality so far as any further large scale underground abstraction have now been fully exploited. With future long term requirements in mind the Luton Water Company, in conjunction with other Water Authorities covering the Counties of Northampton, Bedford, Huntingdon, and Hertford, have been actively engaged in investigating the potentialities of the River Great Ouse as a source of water supply. As a result of this, it is probable that a Bill will be jointly promoted by the Water Authorities referred to, in the Parliamentary Session 1960/61. As far as can be foreseen, the Bill, if successful, should enable all demands from the Authorities concerned—including the Luton district—to be met for something like forty years. The Ouse Scheme is a major engineering operation and no water can be expected from it until 1965–6 at the earliest. To meet the anticipated increase in demand which will occur before any Ouse water becomes available the Water Company propose to seek authority to abstract water from the Lower Greensand stratum at a site at the northern end of Leagrave Common, where it is thought a yield of about one million gallons per day should be available.

### Distribution

“During 1959, some  $6\frac{1}{4}$  miles of water mains have been laid in the Borough to meet continued development, including the first section of 18” trunk mains to feed the Lewsey Farm Estate. Distribution mains have been extended at the following sites:—

Fieldgate Road	High Street, Leagrave	Byron Road
Limbury Mead Estate	Birchen Grove,	Sibley Close
Crawley Green Road	Stopsley	(Ashcroft Road)
Devon Road	Bradley Road	Aldhous Close
Bloomfield Avenue	Lewsey Estate	(Black Swan Lane)
Shakespeare Road	Dunstable Road	Arundel Road
Halfway Estate	Browning Road	Old Bedford Road
Hitchin Road	Wingate Road	Richmond Hill
Nursery Lane	Neville Road	Runley Road
Durham Road	Riverside Road	

### Sampling of Water

“Each source of supply is analysed by the local Public Health Laboratory Service at weekly intervals, the Public Analyst making a more detailed analysis of each source at monthly intervals.

### Plumbo-Solvency of Water

“Although chalk waters of the type supplied by the Luton Water Company are not usually plumbo-solvent, tests indicate that Luton water may be very slightly plumbo-solvent. For this reason no lead service pipes are installed and the Water Company advises the use of materials other than lead for service pipes.”

The following is a copy of the Public Analyst's latest report on the mains supply submitted by the Luton Water Company on 15th December, 1959:—

- No. 1/186 Crescent Road No. 5 Well, Unchlorinated.  
 No. 2/186 Crescent Road No. 5 Well, Chlorinated.  
 No. 3/186 Runley Wood (Chalk), Chlorinated.  
 No. 4/186 Runley Wood, Greensand, Filtrate.  
 No. 5/186 Friars Wash (Chalk), Chlorinated.  
 No. 6/186 Friars Wash (Chalk), Unchlorinated.

### Chemical Analysis

	<i>Parts per 100,000</i>			
	No. 1/186	No. 3/186	No. 4/186	No. 6/186
Free Ammonia ... ..	0.0036	0.0026	0.0008	0.0004
Albuminoid Ammonia ... ..	0.0032	0.0024	0.0006	0.0002
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80 F.	0.004	0.002	0.006	0.004
Nitrites (p.p.m.) ... ..	0.002	Nil	Nil	Nil
Nitrogen as Nitrates ... ..	0.669	0.412	0.124	0.618
Chlorine ... ..	2.3	1.7	1.6	1.3
Hardness, Total ... ..	33.2	42.1	21.4	29.6
Hardness, Permanent ... ..	8.5	13.8	4.6	3.3
Total Solids ... ..	46.2	53.6	28.0	33.2
Sulphate as SO <sub>4</sub> ... ..	4.5	13.3	4.3	0.9
pH value ... ..	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.2
Iron as Fe (p.p.m.) ... ..	Nil	0.20	Nil	Nil

The samples were all clear and free from smell.

A microscopic examination revealed the presence of some mineral and vegetable fragments in each sample.

### Bacteriological Examination

	No. 1/186	No. 2/186	No. 3/186	No. 4/186	No. 5/186	No. 6/186
Number of organisms per ml. growing at 22 C. in 3 days ... ..	1008	2	22	21	2	12
Liquefying organisms ... ..	10	2	8	Nil	Nil	Nil
Number of organisms per ml. growing at 37 C. in 48 hours ... ..	680	3	7	138	2	30
Bacillus Coli ... ..	absent from 100ml.	absent from 100 ml.	absent from 100 ml.	absent from 100 ml.	absent from 100 ml.	absent from 100 ml.

### Opinion

Samples Nos. 1/186 and 4/186 show signs of contamination which in the absence of Bacillus Coli cannot be regarded as serious.

The remaining samples are satisfactory and suitable for use for all dietetic purposes.

## Fluorine in Water Supplies

The water supply of the Borough is derived from a number of wells in which the natural fluorine content varies. Generally, the amount present in the Town Water is between 0.05 and 0.1 parts per million, and this is less than the proportion considered to be needed now for the prevention of dental caries.

The recommended proportion of fluorine is about 1.0 parts per million and this amount must be subjected to careful control to maintain this 'dose' within quite narrow limits of variation, which are capable of being controlled in a water supply.

## Routine Sampling

No. of samples of water submitted by Local Authority for examination by the Public Health Laboratory Service for free chlorine and *Bacillus Coli* ... .. 177

Number of samples of water obtained from:—

Crescent Road Pumping Station	...	...	...	74
Runley Wood Pumping Station	...	...	...	59
Friars Wash Supply	...	...	...	38
Private Wells	...	...	...	3
Other Sources	...	...	...	3
				— 177

Classified results of the above samples:—

	Mains Water	Well Water
Class 1—High satisfactory	173	3
Class 2—Satisfactory	1	—
Class 3—Suspicious	—	—
Class 4—Unsatisfactory	—	—

The system of bi-weekly sampling of the various sources at the Luton Water Company's stations was maintained throughout the year. With one exception all were highly satisfactory. One sample was reported as only satisfactory due to the presence of non-faecal type coliforms. A series of subsequent samples from this source revealed no evidence of pollution and it is possible the discrepancy may have been due to external contamination.

No. of dwellings supplied from piped water mains direct to the houses ... .. 38,601  
 No. of dwellings sharing piped water supplies ... .. 78  
 No. of dwellings supplied from wells ... .. 2

During the summer a bungalow having a private well was again occupied and at the close of the year there were two premises served by private wells. Two samples of water from these wells were submitted to the Public Analyst for chemical and bacteriological examination and were reported upon as satisfactory.

One sample of water from a private house was examined by the Borough Chemist to determine the nature of discolouration.

## SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The drainage of the Borough is on the separate system, except in the Stopsley area and the old part of the Borough where it is combined.

The soil water sewage is dealt with at the New Mill End Sewage Purification Works by sedimentation followed by bio-aeration and bacterial filtration. Before its final discharge to the river, it receives additional treatment through sand filters and micro-strainers. The final stage of treatment is necessary because of the lack of dilution in the river and also because the river is later used as a source of water supply. Some sludge is treated with lime and sulphate of iron, dried and sold for manurial purposes.

## CESSPOOLS

Three cesspools were abolished and one constructed during the year. At the 31st December, 1959, there were 113 in use in the Borough.

Cesspools are emptied by means of mechanical plant as and when required. Five hundred and seven emptyings were carried out during the twelve months.

## PUBLIC CLEANSING—REFUSE DISPOSAL

The following information is supplied by the Director of Public Cleansing:—

“The labour position is still troublesome. During the year the refuse collection service was maintained with some difficulty owing to labour shortages.

“The method of refuse disposal is controlled tipping, and during the year 1959 the weight of all refuse dealt with at the tip was 75,871 tons.”

The Public Cleansing Department is also responsible for emptying the pail and chemical closets used by caravan dwellers in the town. The closets are emptied either two or three times weekly and the number of fittings so serviced is 280.

# SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

## NUMBER AND NATURE OF INSPECTIONS MADE

Complaints reported to Public Health Department	...	...	...	...	1,108*
Primary Inspections:—					<i>No. of visits</i>
PUBLIC HEALTH ACT					
Dwelling houses on complaint	...	...	...	...	1,503
Dwelling houses, no nuisance found	...	...	...	...	81
Own observation	...	...	...	...	36
Other premises	...	...	...	...	137
Infectious disease enquiries	...	...	...	...	62
Vermin, insects and other pests	...	...	...	...	213
Drainage	...	...	...	...	366
Moveable dwellings	...	...	...	...	173
Offices	...	...	...	...	6
Workplaces	...	...	...	...	20
HOUSING ACTS					
Individual unfit houses	...	...	...	...	72
Clearance areas	...	...	...	...	59
Certificates of disrepair	...	...	...	...	48
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	15
Housing application visits	...	...	...	...	78
Houses let in lodgings	...	...	...	...	151
Improvement grants	...	...	...	...	100
FOOD PREMISES					
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	78
Canteens and mobile canteens	...	...	...	...	190
Cafes and restaurants	...	...	...	...	594
Public houses	...	...	...	...	35
Clubs and occasional catering premises	...	...	...	...	64
Butchers	...	...	...	...	181
Fried fish	...	...	...	...	49
Other food shops	...	...	...	...	706
Market	...	...	...	...	13
Merchandise Marks Act	...	...	...	...	4
Food storage premises	...	...	...	...	176
Food inspection (excluding slaughterhouses)	...	...	...	...	317
Slaughterhouses (primarily for meat inspection)	...	...	...	...	1,713
Dairies	...	...	...	...	242
Milk shops	...	...	...	...	114
Ice-cream premises	...	...	...	...	188
Visits to obtain water samples	...	...	...	...	268
Visits to obtain utensil swabs	...	...	...	...	24
ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION					
Contraventions investigated	...	...	...	...	144
Smoke observations	...	...	...	...	14
Boiler-house inspections	...	...	...	...	99
Atmospheric pollution recording apparatus	...	...	...	...	330
Smoke control surveys—Commercial	...	...	...	...	5
„ „ „ —Domestic	...	...	...	...	44
„ „ „ —Industrial	...	...	...	...	6

\* This figure does not include 648 complaints of Rats and Mice, which are dealt with elsewhere in the Report.





## ABATEMENT OF NUISANCES

## DRAINAGE

Reconstructed ... ..	59
Tested ... ..	90
Exposed ... ..	62
Repaired ... ..	80
Inspection chambers inserted ... ..	24
„ „ repaired ... ..	14
New inspection chamber covers provided ... ..	19
Gullies renewed ... ..	37
Soil and vent pipes repaired or renewed ... ..	18
W.Cs. repaired ... ..	71
„ reconstructed ... ..	10
New W.C. pans provided ... ..	66
Private drains unstopped ... ..	143
Combined drains unstopped ... ..	368
Cisterns repaired or renewed ... ..	25
Guttering repaired or renewed ... ..	81
Rain water pipes repaired or renewed ... ..	39
Rain water pipes and sink waste pipes disconnected ... ..	8
Sinks renewed ... ..	15
Sink waste pipes repaired, renewed or trapped ... ..	44
Cesspools replaced by main drainage ... ..	3

## PUBLIC HEALTH ACT

Animals kept prejudicial to health ... ..	4
Accumulation of refuse ... ..	29
Brickwork or pointings ... ..	70
Rendering repaired or renewed ... ..	13
Dampness remedied ... ..	79
Fireplaces and stoves repaired or renewed ... ..	19
Flooring ... ..	57
Skirting boards repaired ... ..	8
Windows and frames repaired or renewed ... ..	82
Sash cords renewed ... ..	56
Doors and frames repaired or renewed ... ..	52
Chimney stacks repaired ... ..	9
„ pots renewed ... ..	2
Flashing and filleting ... ..	4
Roofs made watertight ... ..	132
Ceilings repaired ... ..	54
Wall plaster renewed ... ..	67
Sub-floor ventilation provided or improved ... ..	1
Water supply reinstated or made sufficient ... ..	5
Passages paved ... ..	7
Filthy premises cleansed ... ..	1
Disinfestations carried out ... ..	78
Disinfections carried out ... ..	1
Miscellaneous ... ..	98

## HOUSING ACT

Rent book made to comply with Housing Acts ... ..	4
Overcrowding abated ... ..	2
Houses let in lodgings ... ..	5

TOTAL ... .. 2,215

## STATUTORY NOTICES

### NUMBER OF LEGAL NOTICES ISSUED FOR ABATEMENT OF NUISANCES

	<i>Served</i>	<i>Complied with</i>
Number of Outstanding Notices, 31st Dec., 1958 ...	6	6
Public Health Act, 1936. Section 24 ... ..	55	55
Public Health Act, 1936. Section 39 ... ..	29	23
Public Health Act, 1936. Section 45 ... ..	7	5
Public Health Act, 1936. Section 93 ... ..	44	35
Public Health Act, 1936. Section 138 and Water Act, 1945. Section 30 ... ..	1	1
	<hr/> 142	<hr/> 125
No. of Outstanding Notices at 31st December, 1959	17	

There were two cases where the Corporation, having served Notices under Section 39 of the Public Health Act, 1936, which were not complied with, found it necessary to carry out the works in default. Both were in respect of drainage defects, the cost of the works totalling £5 2s. 6d. were duly recovered.

The maintenance of sewers vested in the Corporation (formerly combined drains) again caused considerable work during the year. Repairs to drainage systems of this type serving 50 houses were carried out by the Corporation under Section 24 of the Public Health Act, 1936, the costs of these works being recovered from the various owners.

By agreement with the owner of one house the Corporation demolished a cesspool and redrained the premises to connect with the public sewer, the cost of this work being repaid by instalments.

### Complaints referred to other Departments

The following table summarises complaints received in the Department, investigated where necessary and referred to the appropriate Department:—

Housing Department ... ..	28
Borough Engineer's Department ... ..	11
Cleansing Department ... ..	6
County Pests Officer ... ..	1
Luton Water Company ... ..	6
Lee Conservancy Catchment Board ... ..	1

Where a blocked drain is found to serve more than one property, it is referred to the Borough Engineer for attention, and an attempt is made to clear the stoppage by rodding before enforcement action is instituted. Two hundred and eleven such references were made during the year.



## DISINFECTION

Cases of notifiable infectious diseases	...	...	...	...	...	57
Cases removed to Isolation Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	12
Rooms disinfected after infectious, contagious or other diseases	...					15
Rooms disinfected by occupiers	...	...	...	...	...	25
Articles disinfected by steam	...	...	...	...	...	58
Articles disinfected by fumigants	...	...	...	...	...	115
Articles destroyed at request of owners	...	...	...	...	...	54
Premises visited tracing infectious disease	...	...	...	...	...	68

Five hundred and thirty-eight library books were withdrawn from circulation and were disinfected before they were returned.

## DISINFESTATION

Rooms disinfested for vermin or other insect pests	...	...	...	...	...	295
Articles disinfested by steam	...	...	...	...	...	73
Articles destroyed at request of owners	...	...	...	...	...	46
Wasps nests destroyed	...	...	...	...	...	141

Hot dry weather provides ideal breeding conditions for many insects and one result of the good summer experienced was an increased call on the services of the Department for the investigation of verminous infestations and for the destruction of wasps' nests. The latter service showed a spectacular increase to an all-time record figure.

On eight occasions advantage was taken of the facilities afforded by the Natural History Department of the British Museum to submit uncommon insects for identification. This service is particularly valuable because the enormous number of species of insects renders identification of all but the most common types a matter for the entomologist.

Where infestation by the larvae of the common furniture beetle (wood-worm) was reported, treatment with a proprietary insecticide was carried out. In this connection 14 premises involving 29 rooms were treated. Effective treatment of serious infestations is however a long process involving high labour costs. The service rendered by the Department is therefore designed rather as a first-aid treatment, advice being rendered to the occupier on the measures needed for complete eradication.

Thirty-five infestations by bed bugs were found during the year, an increase of over 100%. In all instances disinfestation was carried out by the use of liquid vermicide. In one instance further treatment was necessary.

The following table shows the number of premises and rooms dealt with during 1959:—

	Number of Premises		Number of Rooms	
	Found to be infested	Disinfested	Found to be infested	Disinfested
Number of Council Houses ...	8	8	21	21
Number of other Houses ...	27	27	72	72
Number of cases where disinfection has been carried out prior to removal from Clearance Areas, etc., into new Council Houses ...	—	—	—	—
Number of cases where disinfection has been carried out by Corporation Disinfesting Officer ...	35	35	93	93
Number of cases where disinfection has been carried out by Occupants or Contractors ...	—	—	—	—
Number of complaints of infestation received ...	32	32	81	81
Number of cases found by Public Health Inspectors ...	3	3	12	12

#### RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION

A baiting and poisoning treatment of sewers for rat infestation was carried out between February and May. For the first time Warfarin baits packed in stockinette were used. This method was pioneered in Salford and proved to be extremely efficient and although involving a higher labour cost was considered worth while. It is intended that future treatments will be by this method. One thousand, one hundred and eighty manholes were treated and there were 295 complete and 275 partial takes. A second treatment was commenced in early December and was still in progress at the end of the year.

A further innovation during the year resulted for the first time in all cases of infestation, both rats and mice, being treated by anti-blood coagulant rodenticide. This step was taken because experience over recent years has shown it to be most efficient.

Assiduous attention has been paid to the few sites in the Borough which are frequently infested by rats. At no time did the infestations get out of hand and throughout the year the number of rats on the Corporation refuse tip remained small.

An analysis of the work is detailed below:—

		Complaints received	No. of premises involved	Treatment completed	Treatment in progress
Private Dwellings	{ Rats Mice	394 99	656 104	665 104	16 5
Business Premises	{ Rats Mice	77 78	67 79	69 84	5 4
Totals	{ Rats Mice	471 177	723 183	734 188	21 9

In dealing with the above-mentioned infestations, the rodent operatives paid a total of 5,610 visits. Thirty-nine visits were also made to infestations by the Public Health Inspectors.

### PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS

The Baths Superintendent has kindly supplied the following information:

"During the season of 1959, the following numbers attended:—

							<i>Waller Street Baths</i>	<i>Open Air Swimming Pool</i>
Swimmers	...	...	...	...	...	...	55,456	139,244
Spectators	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,648	12,745
Clubs ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8,959	—
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	...	22,175	12,432
Total Swimmers and Spectators							89,238	164,421
Slipper Baths	...	...	...	...	...	...	40,965	
Total Attendances							130,203	

"Chloroscope examinations of the water are carried out by the attendants twice a day."

There are three swimming pools in the Borough, two open air and one indoor bath. One of the former belongs to the Luton High School. Water from the town's mains supply is used in the pools, each of which has a circulation system and is equipped with rapid sand filtration. Complete circulation is effected in each pool in a 4-4½ hour period, and the water is completely changed annually. Break-point chlorination is employed in each case.

Seventy-four samples of baths water were taken by the Public Health Inspectors and sent to the Borough Chemist for examination. The excellent summer was reflected in the attendances at the Open Air Pool and throughout the season difficulty was experienced in maintaining a satisfactory free chlorine content. This arose as a result of the heavy loading to which the Pool was subjected but at no time did the condition of the water give rise to serious concern. The bacteriological condition of the waters was satisfactory throughout the season but it was found necessary during July to increase the residual alkalinity of the water at both open air pools.

### PLACES OF PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT

Inspection of sanitary accommodation in the cinemas and theatres has been made during the year. Where minor sanitary defects were found, they were attended to. An annual inspection was carried out for the purpose of satisfying the Licensing Authority that the sanitary accommodation was adequate and had been satisfactorily maintained during the year.

During the visits of the pleasure fair to the Borough, supervision of the sanitary arrangements and the food stalls was maintained. All stalls from which food is sold are provided with adequate washing facilities, including soap, towels and nail brushes.

### ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Following the survey of the central area carried out in 1958 the Council in July last made a Smoke Control Order covering 82.85 acres in the centre of the town. One hundred and fifty-one objections were lodged, principally by householders, and a Public Inquiry was held on behalf of the Minister of

Housing and Local Government on 15th December. The Minister's Inspector was Mr. R. H. Evans, Architect, and the objectors' case was presented by the National Coal Merchants Federation.

On the 14th May a paper was presented to the Institution of Public Health Engineers by British Coal Utilisation Research Association engineers describing a new method by which the proportion of fuel emitted as smoke from open coal fires can be accurately determined. This figure ranges from 2.5% to 5.5% according to the type of fuel consumed. It is known that some 75,000 tons of coal are consumed in domestic grates in Luton annually and the amount of smoke released into the atmosphere of Luton therefore lies in the range 1,875–4,125 tons per annum. The ultimate aim of eliminating this pollution can only be achieved by the introduction of an extensive programme of Smoke Control Areas. The provisions of the Act affecting industry have been reasonably well received and very few infractions of the law occurred.

During the year major improvements have been carried out in six boilerhouses resulting in improvement in smoke emission from the chimneys concerned. These were duly notified to the Local Authority together with six other notifications of installation of new furnaces. One new incinerator plant was brought into use and is operating satisfactorily. No applications for prior approval were received. The horizontal retort house at the Gas Works was closed during the year removing the major cause of pollution from these Works.

The table below gives a summary of the work carried out under the Clean Air Act during the year:—

Number of contraventions investigated	...	...	...	...	144
Number of visits and revisits	...	...	...	...	155
Number of visits to boilerhouses	...	...	...	...	99
Number of boiler plants and furnaces fully surveyed	...	...	...	...	35
Number of smoke observations made and recorded	...	...	...	...	14
Number of visits to premises in the proposed Smoke Control Area	...	...	...	...	55
Number of notices served or arrangements made concerning excessive emissions of smoke	...	...	...	...	19
Number of notices served or arrangements made in respect of other infringements of the Clean Air Act	...	...	...	...	26
Number of visits to Atmospheric Pollution Recording Stations	...	...	...	...	330

The four Atmospheric Pollution Recording Stations maintained by the Department continued to operate throughout the year. Three of these consist of a standard deposit gauge and lead peroxide candle and one of lead peroxide candle only. The results of the analyses have been forwarded as usual to the Director, Warren Spring Laboratory, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, Stevenage, for inclusion in the National Bulletin which is published monthly.

The volumetric apparatus for recording sulphur dioxide and suspended matter is operated at the Town Hall. From this daily readings are taken. These results have also been forwarded to Stevenage for inclusion in the National Bulletin.

Results for the relevant period and for the previous year are shown on pages 61 to 65. The graph on page 65 illustrates the results from the volumetric apparatus and demonstrates effectively the pollution put into the town's atmosphere during the winter heating season.



# ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION—SUMMARY OF OBSERVATIONS

DEPOSITED MATTER  
EXPRESSED AS  
TONS PER SQUARE MILE  
PER MONTH

1957-1958

	Town Hall	Beech Hill	Luton High School
Summer Average April-Sept., 1957 ...	12.69	14.45	9.06
Winter Average Oct. 1957-Mar. 1958	13.73	17.60	11.85
Year's Average ...	13.21	16.03	10.46

SULPHUR COMPOUNDS BY LEAD  
PEROXIDE METHOD EXPRESSED  
AS MILLIGRAMS SO<sub>3</sub>/DAY/100 CM<sup>2</sup>  
LEAD PEROXIDE

1957-1958

	Town Hall	Beech Hill	Luton High School	Con- naught Road
Summer Average April-Sept. '57	1.25	1.18	1.19	1.69
Winter Average Oct. '57-Mar. '58	2.31	1.91	1.70	2.40
Year's Average	1.78	1.55	1.45	2.05

1958-1959

	Town Hall	Beech Hill	Luton High School
Summer Average April-Sept. 1958 ...	16.99	12.37	10.95
Winter Average Oct. 1958-Mar. 1959	17.25	12.94	10.42
Year's Average ...	17.12	12.66	10.69

SUSPENDED MATTER AND SULPHUR  
DIOXIDE BY VOLUMETRIC METHOD  
Suspended Matter expressed as milligrams  
per 100 cubic metres  
Sulphur Dioxide expressed as parts  
per 100 million

1957-1958

	Suspended Matter	Sulphur Dioxide
Summer Average April-Sept. 1957 ...	2.9	1.0
Winter Average Oct. 1957-Mar. 1958	9.1	2.7
Year's Average ...	6.0	1.9

1958-1959

	Suspended Matter	Sulphur Dioxide
Summer Average April-Sept. 1958 ...	1.7	1.1
Winter Average Oct. 1958-Mar. 1959	11.5	3.9
Year's Average ...	6.6	2.5

Deposited Matter (tons per sq. mile per month)  
Jan.—Dec., 1959

	Town Hall	Beech Hill	Luton High School
January ... ..	23.00	17.67	15.95
February ... ..	12.09	7.27	6.40
March ... ..	24.30	15.40	12.45
April ... ..	20.07	21.10	12.69
May ... ..	14.69	14.00	13.42
June ... ..	16.56	14.99	9.68
July ... ..	13.94	16.85	24.55
August ... ..	13.80	11.10	13.20
September ... ..	6.06	6.27	5.64
October ... ..	25.82	31.50	15.80
November ... ..	16.95	19.02	10.77
December ... ..	32.42	14.23	11.00

Sulphur Compounds by Lead Peroxide Method  
(milligrams  $\text{SO}_3$ /day/100  $\text{cm}^2$ )  
Jan.—Dec., 1959

	Town Hall	Beech Hill	Luton High School	Connaught Road
January ... ..	3.56	1.50	2.28	3.24
February ... ..	2.44	1.38	1.90	2.86
March ... ..	1.84	0.86	1.31	3.11
April ... ..	1.44	0.57	0.88	1.55
May ... ..	0.86	0.22	0.38	0.77
June ... ..	1.66	0.49	0.45	0.40
July ... ..	0.62	0.52	0.55	1.64
August ... ..	0.78	0.39	0.45	0.55
September ... ..	0.75	0.13	0.29	0.76
October ... ..	1.53	0.73	1.10	2.17
November ... ..	0.94	1.00	1.29	5.24
December ... ..	1.99	0.87	1.69	2.39

Summer Averages 1959.

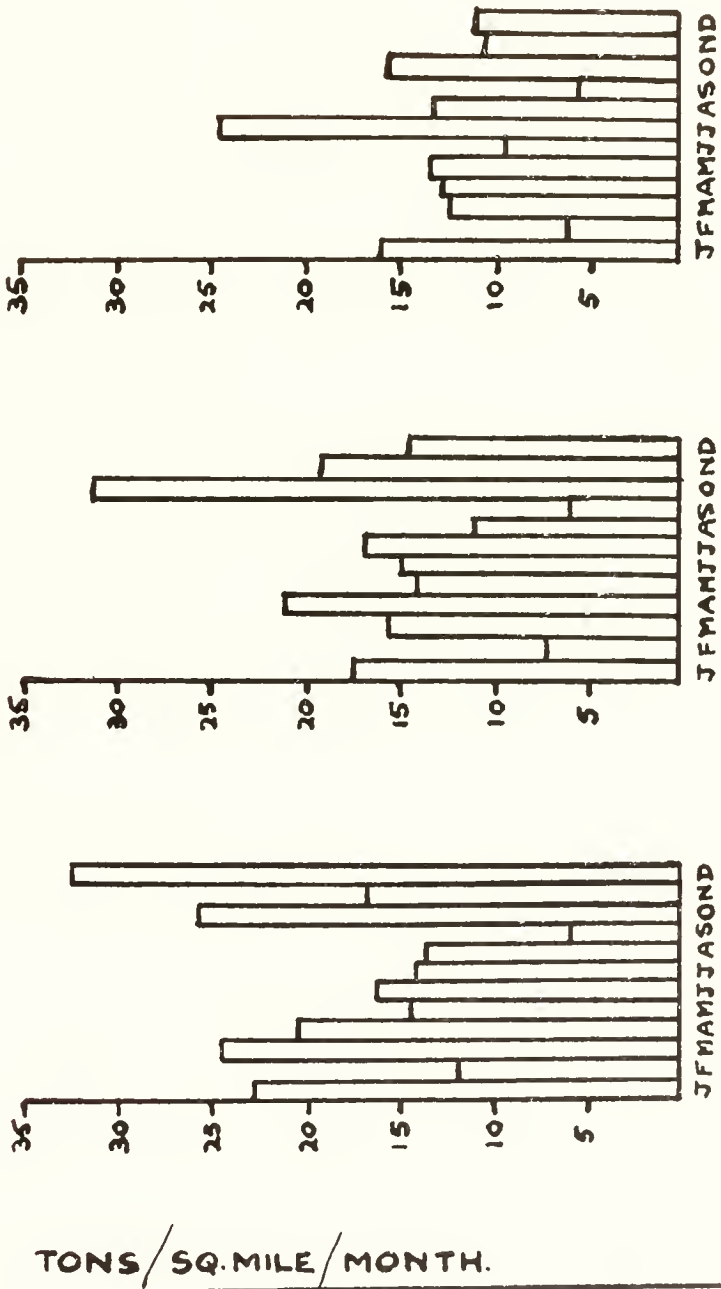
	Town Hall	Beech Hill	Luton High School	Connaught Road
Deposited Matter (tons/sq. mile/month) ... ..	14.19	14.05	13.20	—
Sulphur Compounds (milligrams $\text{SO}_3$ /day/100 $\text{cm}^2$ .)	1.02	0.39	0.50	0.95

# 1959. MONTHLY DEPOSITS IN TONS PER SQUARE MILE.

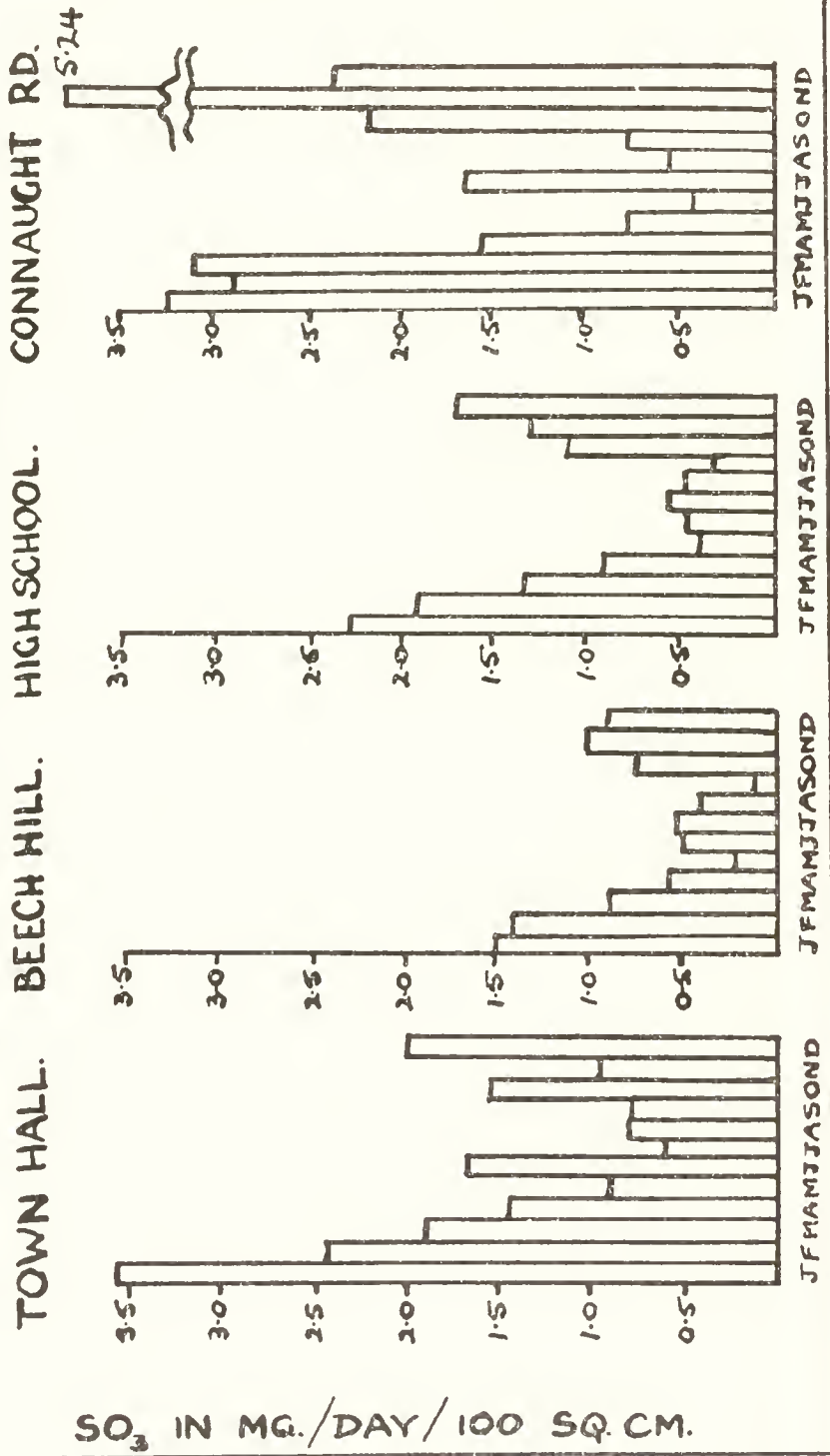
TOWN HALL.

BEECH HILL.

HIGH SCHOOL.

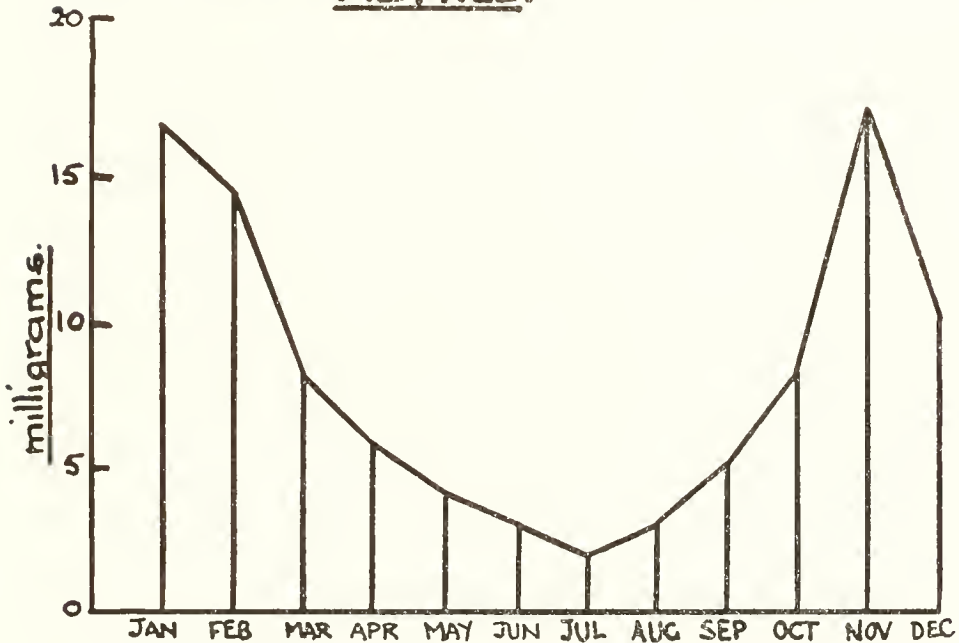


1959.  
SULPHUR DIOXIDE BY LEAD PEROXIDE METHOD.

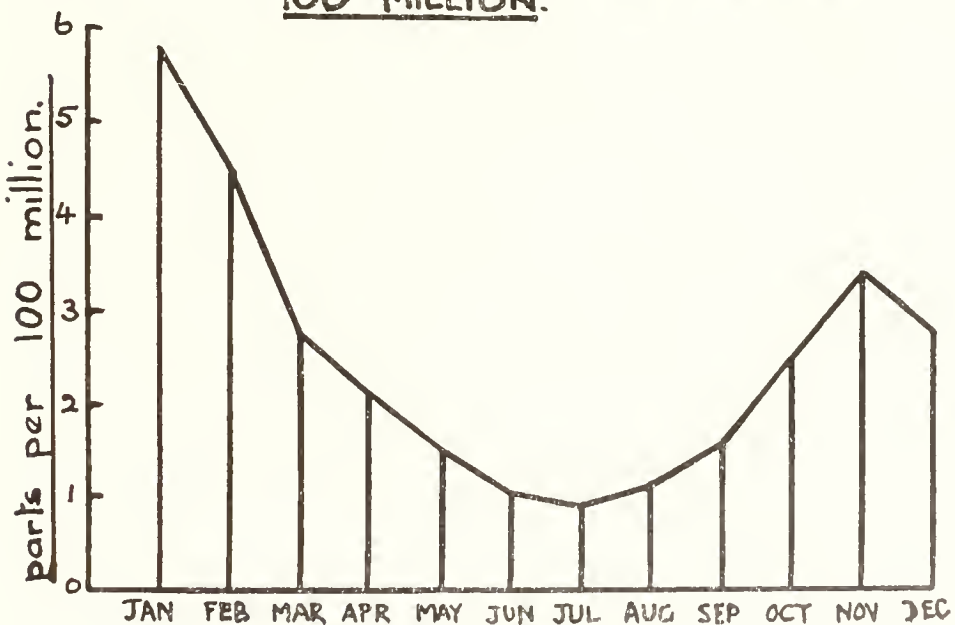




SUSPENDED MATTER EXPRESSED  
AS MILLIGRAMS PER 100 CUBIC  
METRES.



SULPHUR DIOXIDE BY THE VOLUMETRIC  
METHOD EXPRESSED AS PARTS PER  
100 MILLION.



### SHOPS ACT, 1950

Section 38 of this Act is administered by the Public Health Department.

Seventeen visits were paid to shop premises during 1959, investigating the sanitation and environmental conditions. Two notices were served in respect of contraventions found.

### PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

This Act regulates the conditions in which pet animals are kept pending sale. It provides for the licensing of premises from which pet animals are sold and empowers a Local Authority to make conditions regarding the housing and care of the pets. The conditions demanded in the Borough are those recommended by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

During the period under review, 13 visits were paid to the 7 premises so licensed to ensure that the requirements of the Act were complied with.

### LICENSING OF WASTE FOOD PLANTS

The Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) Regulations, 1957, places upon Local Authorities the responsibility of inspecting and licensing waste food boiler plants. Four plants are licensed by the Corporation for this purpose, one plant being removed to new premises during the year. Eleven visits were paid to plants during the year to ensure compliance with the Regulations.

### OFFENSIVE TRADES

The two offensive trades were conducted satisfactorily during the year and 23 inspections of the premises were made.

## THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937 INSPECTIONS

Premises inspected	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	418
Premises inspected and found satisfactory	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	334
Premises inspected and found unsatisfactory	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	84
Factories where defects were found and referred by H.M. Inspector	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Reports on action taken sent to H.M. Inspector	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Number of defects remedied as a result of H.M. Inspector's notifications	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1937

### PART I OF THE ACT

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are enforced by Local Authorities	28	16	2	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	695	540	82	Nil
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	42	24	Nil	Nil
Total	765	580	84	Nil

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found. (If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they are reckoned as two, three or more "cases").

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
(1)	(2)	(3)	To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	(6)
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ... ..	3	1	—	2	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient ... ..	4	3	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	7	5	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	1	2	—	1	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work) ... ..	92	62	—	20	—
Total ... ..	107	73	—	24	—

Increased attention was paid to the inspection of factory sanitary accommodation during the year, 580 visits being paid to 418 premises. This represents well over 50% of the total number on the Register. The standard of sanitary accommodation generally was satisfactory.

At the 31st December, 1959, there were 695 factories (mechanical power) and 28 factories (non-mechanical power) on the Register. These figures include 171 hat manufacturers and 53 allied trades.

The one remaining underground bakehouse was allowed to continue during the year in consideration of the particular personal hardship involved.

## PART VIII OF THE ACT

### Outwork

(Sections 110 and 111)

	Nature of Work (1)	Section 110			Section 111		
		No. of outworkers in list required by Section 110(1)(c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises (5)	Notices Served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
FEBRUARY RETURNS	Making, etc., of wearing apparel ...	1,376	—	—	—	—	—
	Box making ...	2	—	—	—	—	—
	Lampshade making	8	—	—	—	—	—
	Other classes of work	Nil	—	—	—	—	—
	Total ...	1,386	—	—	—	—	—
AUGUST RETURNS	Making, etc., of wearing apparel ...	1,420	—	—	—	—	—
	Carding, etc., of buttons, etc. ...	4	—	—	—	—	—
	Lampshade making	7	—	—	—	—	—
	All other classes of work ...	Nil	—	—	—	—	—
	Total ...	1,431	—	—	—	—	—

Total number of firms employing outworkers who live in the Borough 118

Total number of outworkers employed who live in the Borough ... 1,501

In connection with the above, the following work was undertaken:—  
February Returns: 19 lists were forwarded to 11 other Local Authorities in respect of 225 workers.

5 lists were received from 4 other Local Authorities in respect of 22 workers and 2 contractors.

August Returns: 19 lists were forwarded to 12 other Local Authorities in respect of 255 workers.

5 lists were received from 4 other Local Authorities in respect of 13 workers and 3 contractors.

## HOUSING

The houses dealt with under the first five-year phase are classified below:—

Number of houses in confirmed Clearance Areas	...	...	...	203
Number of houses in Clearance Areas awaiting confirmation	...			76
Number of individual unfit houses subject to Demolition or Closing Orders	...	...	...	102
Number of houses dealt with by Certificates of Unfitness by the Medical Officer of Health	...	...	...	21
Number of houses purchased by the Corporation for Demolition	...			34
Number of houses demolished or closed by negotiation with owners				2
				<hr/> 438
Number of houses in Clearance Areas previously dealt with individually	...	...	...	10
				<hr/>
Total	...	...	...	<hr/> 428 <hr/>

During 1959, 7 Clearance Areas comprising 39 houses were represented to the Public Health Committee. Forty-four dwellings were also represented as individually unfit. Undertakings by the Owners not to use for human habitation were accepted in respect of 6 houses and Demolition or Closing Orders were made in respect of 36 others. In addition, one Undertaking to render fit was accepted by the Council, but no work had been carried out by the end of the year. A schedule of works was submitted to render fit a house subject to a Closing Order. This was accepted by the Council and work was in progress at the year end. Following a complaint of the condition of vacant houses subject to Closing Orders, a survey was carried out as a result of which a number of premises were more effectively shuttered. Generally, however, the condition of the houses was found to be satisfactory.

Fifty-three houses were demolished during the year, 33 in Clearance Areas, and 20 as a result of formal or informal action under Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1957. A total of 72 families comprising 252 persons were displaced during the year.

Two thousand, nine hundred and fifty-seven houses were inspected for defects under the Public Health and Housing Acts during the year, for which purpose 6,459 inspections were made.

One thousand, two hundred and eighty houses were found to have defects which necessitated action under the Public Health Act; subsequent informal action resulted in 1,089 houses being rendered fit. It was found necessary to serve Statutory Notices in respect of 115 houses. Forty-seven were repaired by the respective owners and a further 52 were repaired by the local authority on behalf of, or in default of, the owners.

The facility afforded whereby intending purchasers of houses in the Borough are given an indication of the expected life of properties, was again much used by the public. Five hundred and fifty-seven enquiries were made, an increase of 116 over 1958.

### **Houses Let in Lodgings**

Investigations have been made during the year into the conditions existing at the houses let-in-lodgings, which have increased rapidly in numbers in recent years. The standards adopted by the Council at the end of 1958 have been notified to the occupiers and there have been many inspections and interviews to secure compliance with the new conditions. Difficulty is experienced because the occupiers are frequently recent immigrants who speak little English, have been accustomed to low standards and are often not easily located.

Effort during the year has therefore been largely devoted to impressing upon the occupants that this type of premises must be kept in such manner as to conform with the Council's standards. A total of 190 visits were paid and 5 notices served.



## RENT ACT, 1957

The number of applications for Certificates of Disrepair fell to about 1/3rd of the previous year's figure, whilst applications by landlords for cancellation of Certificates continued at approximately the same level. Considerable correspondence is still involved in dealing with this work and the public's understanding of the complex procedure is still hazy.

An appeal was made in March to the County Court by a tenant against the cancellation of a Certificate of Disrepair on the grounds that the repairs had not been carried out satisfactorily. It was established that the repairs had been completed but because the roof later showed evidence of leaking the judge ordered that the Certificate be restored.

Details of Certificates of Disrepair issued and cancelled during the year are shown below:—

### PART I

#### APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATES OF DISREPAIR

(1) Number of applications for certificates	...	...	...	45
(2) Number of decisions not to issue certificates	...	...	...	2
(3) Number of decisions to issue certificates:—				
(a) in respect of some but not all defects	...	...	...	31
(b) in respect of all defects	...	...	...	10
(4) Number of undertakings given by landlords under paragraph 5 of the First Schedule	...	...	...	18
(5) Number of undertakings refused by Local Authority under proviso to paragraph 5 of the First Schedule	...	...	...	Nil
(6) Number of Certificates issued	...	...	...	25

### PART II

#### APPLICATIONS FOR CANCELLATION OF CERTIFICATES

	1954 <i>Act</i>	1957 <i>Act</i>
(7) Applications by landlords to Local Authority for cancellation of certificates	1	28
(8) Objections by tenants to cancellation of certificates	Nil	15
(9) Decisions of Local Authority to cancel in spite of tenants' objections	Nil	Nil
(10) Certificates cancelled by Local Authority	3	26



## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

## FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

## MILK

**Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959**

No. of persons registered as Distributors	...	...	...	260
No. of premises registered as Dairies	...	...	...	9

**Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949 to 1953**

No. of Dealer's (Pasteuriser's) Licences	...	...	...	2
No. of Dealer's Licences to use the special designation				
Pasteurised	...	...	...	93
No. of Supplementary Licences to use the special designation				
Pasteurised	...	...	...	4
No. of Dealer's Licences to use the special designation				
Sterilised	...	...	...	238
No. of Supplementary Licences to use the special designation				
Sterilised	...	...	...	5

**Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949 to 1954**

No. of Dealer's Licences to use the special designation				
Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	48
No. of Supplementary Licences to use the special designation				
Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	4

## BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK

Luton is a specified area under Section 41 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, and all milk sold in the Borough must be either Tuberculin Tested, Pasteurised or Sterilised. Three hundred and one samples of these categories of milk were obtained and submitted for bacteriological examination at the Public Health Laboratory (see table on page 73).

One Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) sample and three farm bottled Tuberculin Tested samples failed to pass the statutory tests. The farm bottled samples were from two farms and on each occasion repeat samples were satisfactory. The high proportion of satisfactory results reflects favourably upon the high standard of processing and retailing maintained in the Borough.

## BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK

Designation of Milk	Total Samples Submitted	Methylene Blue Test		Samples Cancelled Statutory Minimum Temperature not reached	Percentage Satisfactory	Phosphatase Test		Percentage Satisfactory	Turbidity Test		Percentage Satisfactory
		Passed	Failed			Passed	Failed		Passed	Failed	
Pasteurised ...	148	148	0	—	100·00	148	0	100·00	10	0	100·00
Sterilised ...	10										
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	121	120	1	—	99·17	121	0	100·00			
Tuberculin Tested ...	22	19	3	—	86·36						

## BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF WASHED BOTTLES AND CHURNS

Twenty-three batches consisting of 238 washed milk bottles were taken for examination during the year. On two occasions the results were below satisfactory. Attention to the detergent mixes resulted in further samples proving satisfactory.

Ten batches totalling 59 churn rinsings were tested. Eight were satisfactory, one fairly satisfactory and one unsatisfactory. Repeat samples of rinsings from the washing plant concerned proved satisfactory.

One batch of 18 washed bottles was taken from a soft drink bottling plant and these were satisfactory.

## REGISTRATION OF PREMISES USED FOR THE MANUFACTURE, STORAGE OR SALE OF FOOD (FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955, SECTION 16)

	Premises on Register 31st Dec., 1958	Condi- tional Appro- vals outstand- ing 31st Dec., 1958	No. of Applica- tions received during 1959	No. of Certi- ficates issued	No. of Condi- tional Appro- vals can- celled	No. of Condi- tional Appro- vals outstand- ing 31st Dec., 1959	No. of Applica- tions refused	No. of Premises re- moved during 1959	Total on Register at 31st Dec., 1959
Sale and storage of Ice-Cream ...	381	9	49	50	4	3	1	32	399
Manufacture of Ice- Cream ...	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	6
Manufacture of Pre- served Food ...	68	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	68
Fish Frying and Curing ...	31	—	2	2	—	—	—	2	31

A total of 5,429 visits was paid to food premises for the purpose of ensuring compliance with the requirements of the Food Hygiene Regulations and this figure includes 460 special inspections of registered premises as follows:—

Sale, storage and manufacture of Ice-Cream ...	192
Manufacture of Preserved Food ...	196
Fish Frying and Curing ...	72

### FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1955

Regular supervision of Food Shops was maintained to ensure continued compliance with the Regulations. No serious contraventions were found, but 252 notices were served for various defects and 232 were complied with.

The following table shows the type and number of food shops in the Borough:—

Grocers, Provision Merchants and General Stores	346
Greengrocers ...	75
Confectioners ...	112
Cooked Meats Shops ...	8
Off Licence Premises ...	34
Bakers ...	31
Fishmongers ...	33
Butchers ...	82
Total ...	721

The food stalls accompanying the pleasure fair which visits the town periodically during the year were inspected. All these stalls are now equipped with facilities for personal washing and provided with hot water as required by the Regulations.

## FOOD HYGIENE IN CATERING ESTABLISHMENTS

During the year 26 new premises were established and 10 closed, and at 31st December the number of establishments serving meals and snacks was 405, comprised as follows:—

Restaurants ... ..	82
Snack Bars ... ..	36
School Canteens ... ..	33
School Kitchens only ... ..	13
Factory Canteens ... ..	52
Canteens serving Snacks only ... ..	29
Commercial Hotels and Boarding Houses... ..	4
Social Clubs ... ..	12
Occasional Catering ... ..	34
Public Houses including those serving Snacks ... ..	110

During the year the undermentioned work was carried out:—

Number of visits and re-visits made ... ..	1,438
Number of interviews held ... ..	170
Number of letters sent or arrangements made ... ..	147
Number of letters or arrangements complied with ... ..	142
Number of Lectures given ... ..	8
Number of Persons attending Lectures ... ..	178

Work carried out:—

Premises completely redecorated ... ..	26
Premises partly redecorated ... ..	42
Water heaters installed ... ..	8
Walls and ceilings cleansed ... ..	25
Wash-basins provided ... ..	2
Sinks provided ... ..	5
Miscellaneous work ... ..	50
	—
	158
	—

All plans concerning food premises submitted to the Borough Engineer were examined and amendments obtained where necessary before being submitted to the Planning Committee; the premises were visited and the proprietors advised of the equipment required to maintain a good hygienic standard.

Educational work was continued during the year and a total of 8 lectures with the aid of films and film strips were given to the staffs of various food establishments.

Two courses for food handlers were held at the Luton College of Technology during the year under the auspices of the Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene. The object of the course is to improve the knowledge and technique of people engaged in food preparation and handling and an examination is held at the conclusion of the course. The Specialist Inspector for Food Hygiene was a lecturer to both courses. An average of 54 students attended both courses and 21 were successful in passing the examinations.

Utensil swabbing was carried out in 22 different food premises. The following items of equipment were tested:—

Plates	...	...	...	...	122
Cups	...	...	...	...	108
Beakers	...	...	...	...	8
Fruit Dishes	...	...	...	...	4
Miscellaneous utensils	...	...	...	...	8
Total					250

Out of the 250 swabs taken, 179 returned a total bacteriological count of less than 100 colonies per utensil. Of the remaining 71, 21 returned a count of between 100–200 colonies, 7 between 200–300, 13 between 300–500, 14 between 500–1,000 and 16 over 1,000. In 3 cases faecal coli was found, but following investigation and advisory action, subsequent tests were satisfactory. Although there is no legal bacteriological standard for crockery and utensils, the figures quoted above are widely accepted by Public Health Departments and form a useful working guide. To be regarded as satisfactory a utensil should have not more than 100 colonies.

### ICE-CREAM

Practically all the ice-cream sold in Luton is manufactured by firms operating on a national basis, and there is little need to take many samples. All those taken were placed in Grade 1 and this indicates the generally high standard maintained by ice-cream manufacturers at present. The number of premises retailing ice-cream again rose this year by 18.

The Public Health Laboratory Service grading is set out below.

PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY SERVICE GRADING			
Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4
5	—	—	—

In addition to the foregoing, 13 samples of ice-cream were procured for submission to the Public Analyst for the purpose of checking the qualitative standard. All were reported upon as genuine.



## SLAUGHTERHOUSES

There are two private licensed slaughterhouses in the town and a municipal one operated by the Public Health Committee. A Contractor undertakes to slaughter animals presented by any local butcher. This is a temporary premises and towards the end of the year the Council sold the ground upon which it stands and the use of the premises will cease in two years time. By the year end plans to provide a modern small abattoir were on the drawing board.

### MEAT INSPECTION IN SLAUGHTERHOUSES

One hundred per cent inspection was maintained and 1,713 visits were made to slaughterhouses primarily for this purpose. To ensure that all meat slaughtered in the town was inspected it was again necessary for the Inspectors to put in a considerable amount of weekend and overtime working. The number of animals slaughtered during the year was 30,921 compared with 30,668 in 1958.

### CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART

	Cattle exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
Number killed ... ..	5,409	990	554	17,083	6,885	30,921
Number inspected ... ..	5,409	990	554	17,083	6,885	30,921
<b>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:</b>						
Whole carcases condemned	1	—	4	4	—	9
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	2,298	359	2	966	371	3,996
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis and cysticerci ...	42.50%	36.26%	1.08%	5.68%	5.39%	12.95%
<b>Tuberculosis only:</b>						
Whole carcases condemned	6	2	—	—	—	8
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	310	69	—	—	169	548
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ... ..	5.84%	7.17%	—	—	2.45%	1.80%
<b>Cysticercosis:</b>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	11	—	—	—	—	11
Carcases submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration ...	21	3	—	—	—	24
Generalised and totally con- demned ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—

Two goats were also inspected and found free from disease.

The following changes in the incidence of disease found in the slaughterhouses during meat inspection are worthy of note. Cases of Cysticercosis decreased from 109 in 1958 to the low figure of 24, this being the lowest number recorded since 1955, an incidence of 0.38%.

Eight complete beef carcasses were condemned for Tuberculosis and 1 for other causes. The decrease in the incidence of Tuberculosis in cattle found in the slaughterhouses is illustrated in the table set out below and the year's figures were indeed the lowest ever recorded both in cattle, excluding cows, and for cows. In pigs also Tuberculosis was rather less common than during 1958. Increases were noted in the incidence of other unclassified conditions in bovines due mainly to a rise in the number of livers affected with fascioliasis.

#### PERCENTAGE OF NUMBER INSPECTED AFFECTED WITH TUBERCULOSIS

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Pigs
1951	12.43	35.21	0.20	5.27
1952	10.42	26.89	0.17	4.96
1953	9.42	26.45	0.15	4.97
1954	9.03	23.39	0.10	2.40
1955	7.49	13.77	0.13	2.27
1956	7.19	18.15	—	2.14
1957	7.38	11.21	0.42	2.05
1958	7.56	10.86	0.62	3.28
1959	5.84	7.17	—	2.45

#### TRANSPORT OF MEAT

A complaint was received regarding the manner in which meat was exposed to contamination during delivery to butchers' shops in the town and a special investigation was instituted. It was found that every vehicle used for the transport of meat within the Borough boundaries was better than the minimum legal standard. The ideal mode of transport is unquestionably by hanging van and the majority of vehicles employed are of this type. A few vehicles however, which are completely metal lined, only allow for meat to be stacked on the floor. Where this practice occurs the firms concerned were asked to provide either stillages for the stacking of the meat or for duckboards to be provided for the porters to walk on. Offal is transported in metal trays, though the merits of plastic containers are being investigated by one large firm.

#### SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1958

Number of Slaughtermen on Register at 31st December, 1958	...	24
Applications for Licences considered during 1959	... ..	23
Number of Slaughtermen on Register at 31st December, 1959	...	23

#### MERCHANDISE MARKS ORDERS

The supervision of food shop premises to enforce the labelling provisions of the various Orders is carried out by the Public Health Inspectors during the course of their multifarious duties. Five special visits were made in connection with the Orders and the position generally was satisfactory.

Explanatory pamphlets setting out the shopkeepers' obligations under the Merchandise Marks Orders are available upon request.



## INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

The amount of unsound food condemned and destroyed during the year comprised:—

<i>No. of Condemnation Notes</i>	<i>Article</i>	<i>Weight in lb.</i>
2,064	Beef ... ..	59,221
	Pork ... ..	3,955
	Mutton ... ..	2,160
	Meat other than from Slaughterhouses ...	1,305
	Meat—Canned ... ..	4,416
	Fish and Meat Pastes ... ..	12
	Sausages ... ..	31
	Bacon and Ham ... ..	277
	Chicken—Fresh and Canned ... ..	260
	Fish—Fresh and Canned ... ..	1,665
	Fruit—Canned, Dried and Fresh, and Fruit Juices ... ..	2,902
	Preserves—Canned ... ..	553
	Vegetables—Fresh and Canned, and Soups ...	1,979
	Milk—Canned, Evaporated and Dried ...	330
	Cream—Fresh and Synthetic ... ..	12
	Margarine ... ..	86
	Cheese—Fresh and Processed ... ..	4
	Flour, Puddings, Cake and Cake Mixtures ...	137
	Frozen Egg ... ..	36
	Ice Cream Mix and Ice Lollies ... ..	73
	Custard Powder ... ..	4
	Sauces and Pickles ... ..	52
	Miscellaneous ... ..	36
2,064	35 tons 9 cwts 3 qrs 14 lb.	79,506

The above statement includes the weight of the entire carcasses and organs of 7 cattle excluding cows, 2 cows, 4 calves and 4 sheep and lambs.

Offal condemned at the slaughterhouses in the town and at butchers' shops in the Borough is collected by an approved contractor who subjects this material to a steam digestion process. Carcasses of beef are sent to Whipsnade Zoo where they are used for feeding the animals. The remainder of the condemned food is disposed of by supervised burial on the Corporation's Airport Tip.

Three samples of food were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination and were found to be satisfactory. The facilities afforded by the Public Health Laboratory Service for the examination of specimens are most useful and are particularly valuable in connection with meat inspection.

## REPORT OF THE PUBLIC ANALYST FOR THE YEAR 1959

**Food and Drugs Act, 1955**

During the year 1959 a total of 382 samples were submitted for analysis, 359 were purchased informally and 23 were taken with the usual formalities.

A total of 25 samples were reported upon adversely, 19 being informal and 6 formal samples.

The milk supplied in the Borough continues to be of a satisfactory quality although samples are being examined which still contain a smaller proportion of Solids-not-fat than that laid down by the Milk Regulations for genuine milk of the lowest quality. Most of these samples are subsequently shown by analysis not to contain added water and the milks are returned as genuine but of poor quality.

Samples of food other than milk included non-alcoholic drinks found to contain preservative. The manner in which these articles are labelled gave rise to some doubts and the matter is still under consideration.

Samples of sausages containing preservative were reported against, but it was found subsequently that the statutory notice had been displayed in the shop.

In these days there is little gross adulteration of food and the Analyst's task is becoming more complicated as he is called upon to determine very small amounts of substances introduced either inadvertently or deliberately to improve the flavour, keeping quality or appearance of the food. Most new additions are eventually covered by appropriate legislation, and existing Regulations are under constant review with the object of reducing the permitted amounts involved. Since the war there has been a marked increase in the number of Standards of composition for food and most of the more important manufactured foods are covered. Although some consider this to lead to a uniform mediocrity others hold that a Standard does, at least, enforce a minimum, below which the quality and composition of the food shall not fall.

C. HARCOURT WORDSWORTH,

*Public Analyst.*

## SAMPLING OF FOODS AND DRUGS

Nature of Sample	Formal	Informal
Butter ... ..	—	5
Meat and meat products ... ..	—	6
Confectionery, sweets, etc. ... ..	—	21
Fish—canned, and fish and meat paste ... ..	—	9
Fruit—fresh, preserved and canned ... ..	—	22
Vegetables—fresh and canned ... ..	—	11
Groceries—miscellaneous ... ..	—	35
Jam, marmalade, honey, etc. ... ..	—	8
Lard, cooking fat and suet ... ..	—	13
Margarine ... ..	—	5
Milk and milk foods (canned) and cream ... ..	—	15
Milk ... ..	11	158
Patent medicines and chemical substances ... ..	—	18
Sausages and sausage meat ... ..	—	6
Temperance drinks and non-alcoholic wines ... ..	—	12
Wines, spirits and beers ... ..	12	2
Ice-cream ... ..	—	13
Totals ... ..	23	359
	382	

## SUMMARY OF CHEMICAL ANALYSES OF MILK SAMPLES

Period	No. of Samples Examined	AVERAGES	
		Fat %	Solids not Fat %
January ... ..	15	4.06	9.02
February ... ..	16	3.87	8.59
March ... ..	16	3.39	8.60
Quarter ended 31.3.59 ...	47	3.73	8.74
April ... ..	13	3.76	8.64
May ... ..	14	3.45	8.64
June ... ..	17	3.31	8.78
Quarter ended 30.6.59 ...	44	3.48	8.70
July ... ..	11	3.64	9.00
August ... ..	14	4.00	8.55
September ... ..	17	3.44	8.52
Quarter ended 30.9.59 ...	42	3.70	8.63
October ... ..	5 *(7)	3.85 *(6.40)	8.73 *(9.18)
November ... ..	11	3.80	8.75
December ... ..	13	3.86	9.18
Quarter ended 31.12.59 ...	29 *(7)	3.84 *(6.40)	8.96 *(9.18)
Year ended 31.12.59 ...	162 *(7)	3.66 *(6.40)	8.74 *(9.18)

\* The figures in brackets are for samples of Channel Islands milk for which the presumptive standard is 4% fat, and are additional to the other milk samples.

Of the samples analysed, 25 were reported upon adversely or subject to some irregularity, details of which, and the action taken in regard thereto, are appended. All milk samples mentioned, with the exception of samples Nos. 2289 and 2290 ("Appeal to Cow" samples), formed parts of consignments taken in transit from dairy farms.

Sample No.	Formal	Informal	Article	Adulteration or other Irregularity	Action taken
1758		1	Milk	Fat deficient 10%	Average fat contents of total consignments did not fall below statutory minimum in any instance.
1759		1	Milk	Fat deficient 8%	
2048		1	Milk	Fat deficient 2%	
2053		1	Milk	Fat deficient 4%	
2056		1	Milk	Fat deficient 2%	
2227		1	Milk	Fat deficient 15%	
2277		1	Milk	Fat deficient 6%	Determination of Hortvet Freezing Point did not confirm addition of water.
1750	1		Milk	Low in non-fatty solids	
1987		1	Milk	Extraneous water 6%	Formal samples obtained. See Samples Nos. 1991 and 1992.
1991	1		Milk	Low in non-fatty solids	Determination of Hortvet Freezing Point did not confirm addition of water. Livestock Officer for area advised.
1992	1		Milk	Low in non-fatty solids	
2009		1	Milk	Deficient in fat, but having regard to low non-fatty solids and Hortvet Freezing Point, milk considered abnormal	From consignment of nine churns. Five samples were low in fat and four in non-fatty solids. Although below the minimum standard, the milk was regarded as milk as given by the cows. Farmer interviewed and advised.
2010		1	Milk	Deficient in fat, but having regard to low non-fatty solids and Hortvet Freezing Point, milk considered abnormal	
2011		1	Milk	Deficient in fat, but having regard to low non-fatty solids and Hortvet Freezing Point, milk considered abnormal	
2012		1	Milk	Fat deficient 5%	
2016		1	Milk	Deficient in fat, but having regard to low non-fatty solids and Hortvet Freezing Point, milk considered abnormal	
2040		1	Non-alcoholic Ginger	Contained preservatives but bottles not so labelled	
2045		1	Non-alcoholic Ginger	Contained preservatives but bottles not so labelled	The labelling of these three non-alcoholic wines was commented upon by the Public Analyst. His observations were sent to the firms concerned and the matter is being taken up with the appropriate Associations.
2046		1	Non-alcoholic Raisin flavour	Contained preservatives but bottles not so labelled	
2260		1	Pork sausage meat	Contained sulphite preservative 262 p.p.m.	
2261		1	Pork sausages	Contained sulphite preservative 251 p.p.m.	Preservatives not in excess of permitted amount. Investigations revealed that counter notices were displayed.
2264		1	Beef sausages	Contained sulphite preservative 221 p.p.m.	
2288	1		Milk	Extraneous water 11%	"Appeal to Cow" samples obtained. See Samples Nos. 2289 and 2290.
2289	1		Milk	Non-fatty solids low. Abnormal	Investigations revealed unsatisfactory milking methods. Farmer interviewed and Divisional Milk Officer asked to advise.
2290	1		Milk	Non-fatty solids low. Abnormal	

Two prosecutions were instituted during the year for offences regarding the sale of articles of food containing foreign matter. Both the defendants pleaded guilty and penalties were imposed as follows:—

For the sale of a soda cake containing a cockroach, the proprietors of a local bakehouse were fined £50 and ordered to pay £5 5s. 0d. legal costs.

For the sale of a sausage containing part of a cigarette, another local firm was fined £30 with £7 7s. 0d. costs.

**SCHOOL  
HEALTH  
SERVICE**



# LUTON COMMITTEE FOR EDUCATION

## MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES SUB-COMMITTEE (as at end of 1959)

### *Mayor*

ALDERMAN MRS. R. O. ANDREWS, J.P.

### *Chairman*

ALDERMAN C. A. SINFIELD, J.P.

ALDERMAN F. W. BATES, J.P.

ALDERMAN H. C. LAWRENCE

ALDERMAN G. L. MATTHEWS

COUNCILLOR L. G. BOWLES, C.C.

COUNCILLOR R. J. CLARK

COUNCILLOR S. GONSHOR

COUNCILLOR F. GOODYEAR

COUNCILLOR J. HILLIER

COUNCILLOR C. JEPHSON

COUNCILLOR T. A. JONES, C.C.

COUNCILLOR T. J. JONES

COUNCILLOR J. D. RUDDLESDEN

### *Bedfordshire County Council Member*

COUNTY ALDERMAN H. G. BRIGHTMAN, COUNTY COUNCILLOR R. E. CALLAN  
J.P.

### *Co-opted*

SIR JOHN BURGOYNE, O.B.E.

MRS. E. LYONS

J. A. CORBETT, B.A., Ph.D., *Borough Education Officer*

## STAFF

*Principal School Medical Officer*

R. M. DYKES, M.A., M.D., D.P.H.

*Deputy Principal School Medical Officer*

R. S. COOPER, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

*School Medical Officers*

G. A. ROBERTS, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

D. G. H. PATEY, M.A., B.M., B.Ch., D.P.H.

H. A. JOHNSTON, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

*Ophthalmic Surgeon*

E. A. BUTTERWORTH, F.R.C.S., D.O.M.S.

*Orthopaedic Surgeon*

D. LEVI, M.S., F.R.C.S.

*Dental Surgeons*

J. C. PROSSER-FRENCH, L.D.S., R.C.S.Eng.

DAPHNE M. BADHAM, L.D.S., R.C.S. (*Part Time until 9.2.59*)  
(*Full Time from 9.2.59*)

ONE POST VACANT

*Part Time*

M. H. ROBINSON, L.D.S.

*Orthoptist*MRS. E. C. TAYLOR, D.B.O. (*Part Time until 31.3.59*)MISS OLIVE M. CAIRNS, D.B.O. (*Full Time from 1.9.59*)*Remedial Gymnast Masseur*H. J. GODFREY, C.S.M.M.G. (*Part Time*)*Speech Therapist*

MISS C. M. COALES, L.C.S.T.

*Psychiatrist*JUDITH WATERLOW, M.B., B.S. (*Ceased Duties 23.9.59*)R. M. GABRIEL, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P.S., D.P.M. (*Commenced 4.12.59*)*Psychiatric Social Workers*MRS. A. UNVALA (*Until 28.2.59*)MISS M. V. BISHOP (*From 27.7.59*)*Educational Psychologist*MISS M. P. JOYCE, B.SC., (spc.) A.B.P.S.S., C.P.P. (*Part Time*)*Superintendent School Nurse*

MRS. A. E. LANGFORD, S.R.N., S.C.M., CERT. H.V.

*Senior Clerk*

MISS G. A. SHANE

## BOROUGH OF LUTON

### Committee for Education

63-69, Guildford Street,

LUTON.

*February, 1960.*

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Committee for Education

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report on the School Health Service for the year 1959.

The school population increased from 20,136 in 1958, to 20,323 in 1959.

The general health of Luton school children as recorded at routine medical examinations remained at a high level. Only 0.06% of children were regarded as being of an unsatisfactory standard of general fitness, the lowest figure so far noted.

The improvement in the physical health of the school child that has taken place since the school health service first began in 1907 has been accompanied by a gradual change of attention from the child's nutritional state to that of his mental well being. There is no evidence to suggest that in recent years there has been an increase in the proportion of children who are in conflict with their social environment. Rather would it be true to say that there has developed a greater understanding of the mental and emotional disturbances from which children suffer. Emotional conflict can manifest itself in many ways. Lying, stealing, lack of concentration, bed wetting and truancy are but a few of the presenting symptoms; and for this last, when persistent, has been coined the term "school phobia". Hitherto attention has been mainly directed towards the child who presented a grave or intractable social problem and recourse to the child psychiatrist became automatic. Frequently the only course of action open to the psychiatrist (and the one most likely to bring about any improvement) was the removal of the child to a new environment, e.g. boarding school or school for maladjusted pupils, but sometimes this action was taken only after irremediable damage had been done. Failure to effect improvement in difficult cases, caused many people to doubt the valuable work that could be done by a child guidance service, and the child guidance service reacted to this doubt by working more and more in isolation—dissociated from the rest of the work of the school health service. The need at the present time is for the early recognition of symptoms of emotional disturbance in the school (or pre-school) child, and early introduction of measures to bring him into harmony with his social environment. This is easier said than done. But the first step, undoubtedly, is to make child guidance an integral part of the school health service. An effort in this direction has already been made during 1959, but old fears and prejudices die hard. It will take time to promote better understanding amongst members of the school health service of the contribution each can make, but the sooner this is achieved the sooner child guidance will receive the full recognition it so justly deserves.

The services of a Child Psychiatrist are made available by the North West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board for two sessions per week. Due to illness of the visiting psychiatrist in September, however, the school health service was without a consultant for about two months. For about five months also there was no psychiatric social worker. The part-time service of an educational psychologist was provided by the Local Education Authority for the greater part of the year.

In the section of the Report dealing with the school dental service, the contribution of the School Dental Officer merits attention. He describes preventive dentistry as a "relatively new concept", deplores the ignorance that exists about dental diseases and calls for enlightenment of the public on the subject of dental health.

The appointment of Miss D. W. Badham as an additional full-time dental officer at the beginning of the year was particularly welcome. It prevented the service from degenerating into one offering emergency treatment only, as was being threatened by the pressure of work at the end of 1958. The second surgery has been refitted with modern equipment and plans have been prepared for a completely new dental surgery which will form part of the future extension of the Clinic.

With the appointment of a full-time Orthoptist in September after a break of five months, adequate treatment for squint could be instituted once more. It is interesting to note that there is a tendency to refer ophthalmic defects at an earlier age. The facilities for the surgical and orthoptic treatment of squint can now be regarded as very satisfactory.

Towards the end of the year the first steps were taken in a scheme to improve the arrangements for teaching partially deaf children in ordinary schools.

The head of the clerical staff of the school health section, Miss G. A. Shane, was away for almost the whole of the year because of illness. Her absence added greatly to the difficulties of administering the service, and I wish, therefore, to extend to all who accepted without demur the additional duties and responsibilities placed upon them, my gratitude for their loyalty and hard work.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

R. M. DYKES,

*Principal School Medical Officer.*

## POPULATION AND DEPARTMENTS

The school population increased from 20,136 on the 31st December, 1958, to 20,323 on the 31st December, 1959. The number of pupils on the registers at 31st December, 1959, was as follows:—

Primary Schools and Nursery Classes	10,924
Secondary Schools ... ..	6,742
Grammar and Technical Schools ...	2,557
Special School ... ..	100

## MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

The medical inspection of school children was carried out in accordance with the provisions of the School Health Service and Handicapped Pupils Regulations, 1953, in which a minimum of three inspections is prescribed during the period of school life. Infant School Entrants are examined at five years of age within their first year at school, junior pupils at 10 years of age in their last year at primary school, and senior pupils at 14 years of age during their last year at secondary modern school. At the Grammar and High Schools, 14-year-old pupils and all school leavers between the ages of 16–19 years are examined.

Pupils who miss their Periodic Inspection are examined the following year, and all children who are found to have some defect or who require observation are re-examined the following year. Pupils in Residential Schools outside Luton are seen during school holidays.

The number of inspection sessions averaged 9·5 per week during the school terms; 6,333 children were examined at Periodic Medical Inspections, and 1,591 at Re-inspections at the schools.

Of the 6,333 children examined at Periodic Medical Inspections 1,352 (21·35 per cent) were found to have defects requiring treatment compared with 20·40 per cent in 1955, 19·86 per cent in 1956, 18·55 per cent in 1957, and 18·82 per cent in 1958.

## GENERAL CONDITION OF THE CHILDREN INSPECTED

At each routine medical inspection the Medical Officer assesses general fitness. In 1959 0·06% were considered unsatisfactory—as compared with 0·48% in 1958.

### Attendance of Parents

The attendance and co-operation of parents at periodic medical inspection was most gratifying as shown in the following table, although the attendance in the third age group was less satisfactory. It is a common experience that many of the older children prefer not to be accompanied by the parent.

Entrants ... ..	92·9%
Leavers ... ..	31·4%
Other Age Groups ... ..	78·7%



## Hygiene Inspections and Facilities for Medical Examination at Schools

When visiting schools for periodic medical inspections during 1959, the school medical officer made a note of the facilities provided for medical examination and for the weighing and vision testing of pupils. In addition, at the end of the medical examination of pupils, he inspected the sanitary arrangements and recorded the standards of hygiene.

In general the standards of hygiene were found to be satisfactory and were particularly good, as one would expect, in the more modern schools. In the older schools, sanitary defects, when noted, were reported to the Borough Education Officer.

The facilities provided for the medical examination, eye testing and weighing of pupils varied according to the design and age of the school, the availability of accommodation and the degree of co-operation of the head teacher. Parents who attend at the time of medical inspection should have the opportunity of private consultation with the medical officer and many head teachers try to ensure that suitable provision is made for this. It is astonishing to find that in preparing plans for new schools the need for sufficient and suitable accommodation for medical inspections has sometimes been forgotten.

### SCHOOL NURSES

The work of the school nurse included:—(1) preparation of pupils for medical inspection, i.e. weighing, measuring height and vision testing; (2) assisting the School Medical Officer at medical inspection, e.g. obtaining history from parents, details of home conditions, etc.; (3) routine inspections of pupils for cleanliness; (4) assisting at special clinics, e.g. ophthalmic, orthopaedic, and (5) home visitation.

Owing to the shortage of health visitors these routine duties have, for a number of years, been carried out mainly by State Registered Nurses.

The school nurses carried out the following work during the year:—

1. Number of attendances at clinics:—
 

Minor Ailment	...	...	...	...	461
Special	...	...	...	...	509
2. Number of attendances at School Medical Inspection
 

...	...	...	...	...	347
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
3. Number of visits to schools for:
  - (a) Head Inspections:
 

First Visits	...	...	...	...	228
Re-inspections	...	...	...	...	64
  - (b) Other purposes
 

...	...	...	...	314
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
4. Number of visits to Nursery Schools
 

...	63
-----	----
5. Number of Home Visits
 

...	...	...	28
-----	-----	-----	----

## Cleanliness

All children attending primary and secondary schools were inspected by the school nurse at least once each term. The purpose of these inspections is to discover which children are harbouring head-lice and eggs (nits), and to take action on any case of general dirtiness or other condition needing attention, e.g. running ears, plantar warts, etc.

Most cases of head infestation occurred in the children of a few families and they were constantly being re-infested from cases at home.

During the year 44,336 inspections were made, and 275 children were found to be verminous (1.35% of the school population). Verminous children were excluded from school and treated at the Minor Ailment Clinic, and visits were paid to the home to persuade parents to co-operate.

## ARRANGEMENTS FOR TREATMENT

All the special clinics are held at the School Clinic, Dallow Road, excepting the Child Guidance Clinic, and Auditory Training Clinic, which are held at 11, Gordon Street.

Minor Ailments Clinic—Medical Officers' Sessions—Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday a.m.

Treatment Sessions—daily.

Dental—daily by appointment.

Ophthalmic—Monday, Tuesday, Friday—4 sessions weekly.

Orthoptic—2 sessions daily.

Orthopaedic and Surgical Consultant's—1 session per month.

Postural Clinic—at intervals.

Physiotherapy Sessions—Monday and Thursday p.m.

Child Guidance Consultant's Sessions—Wednesday a.m. and p.m.

Speech Therapy—2 sessions daily.

Auditory Training—Monday and Thursday a.m. and p.m.

## Minor Ailments

The treatment of minor ailments is carried out at the School Clinic, Dallow Road. Six Minor Ailment dressing sessions and four Medical Officers' sessions were held each week.

Nine cases of scabies were diagnosed and treated compared with 7 cases in 1957, and 28 in 1958. Facilities for bathing and treatment are available at the Clinic.

Twelve cases of impetigo were diagnosed and treated, compared with 53 cases in 1956, 14 cases in 1957, and 28 cases in 1958.

In addition to the treatment of minor ailments, special examinations were also undertaken by medical officers at the School Clinic of children referred from School Medical Inspections, and children referred by school nurses, teachers, welfare officers and parents.

During the year the treatment of bedwetting by the lending out of Nocturnal Enuresis Alarms was instituted with some success.

The total number of attendances during the year, excluding those attending for dental care, was 23,592, of which 3,932 were primary visits.



## Visual Defects

### (1) *Ophthalmic Clinic*

Mr. E. A. Butterworth, F.R.C.S., D.O.M.S., conducted four sessions each week at the School Clinic. The work of the Department continued to increase both in the number of new patients seen and in the total number of examinations made. It was interesting to note that the number of pre-school children referred rose, suggesting that children are now being referred at an earlier age. The number of operations for squint increased considerably and this was in some measure, due to the close liaison established with the Children's Annexe of the Luton and Dunstable Hospital.

The appointment of a full-time Orthoptist in September made it possible to initiate early treatment and provide a more continuous follow-up of the patients, particularly after operation.

It is important that there should be a free exchange of information between the School Medical Officer and the family doctor. The family doctor was accordingly kept fully informed about any case referred for operative treatment.

					<i>Examined by</i>	
					<i>Ophthalmic Surgeon</i>	
					<i>School</i>	<i>Pre-School</i>
					<i>Children</i>	<i>Children</i>
Total number of attendances ...	...	...	...	...	2,638	284
Number of new cases seen ...	...	...	...	...	519	80
Number of return cases seen ...	...	...	...	...	1,431	87
Number of prescriptions issued ...	...	...	...	...	827	57
Number referred for operative treatment/or investigation ...	...	...	...	...	36	9

Vision testing is an essential part of the medical examination of school children. Any departure from normal vision, tested by the "E" card for non-readers, or the Snellen's test with letters for readers, was noted, and the child was either referred to the eye clinic or re-examined later. A few children had glasses prescribed by their own opticians. In all cases vision was tested with and without glasses at the medical inspections.

### (2) *Orthoptic Clinic*

Following the resignation of the part-time Orthoptist at the end of March, the department was closed until the appointment of a full time Orthoptist on the 1st September. During the four months until the end of the year 172 sessions were held, and the total number of sessions during the year was 209.

Children are referred to the Orthoptist by the Ophthalmic Surgeon after he has examined the eyes for refractive errors and other defects. Under the general direction of the Ophthalmic Surgeon the work of the Orthoptist was concerned with the treatment of squint by giving exercises to encourage both eyes to function simultaneously. Children were also instructed in home exercises with or without the loan of instruments. Such exercises are mostly simple enough for a five year old to perform, and if practised regularly will shorten treatment. For older children more detailed instructions were given to enable them to overcome their defects. In the future it is hoped to extend

the facilities for the loan of equipment for home exercises. In general, the earlier treatment is begun the better the outlook.

When operation for squint was advised, pre- and post-operative treatment was given to obtain the maximum benefit. A report was made on the day of admission to hospital and upon discharge.

Ninety-two new patients were referred for orthoptic treatment during the whole year of whom 38 were of pre-school age. The 92 new patients were classified as follows:—

Convergent Squints	...	...	70
Divergent Squints	...	...	11
Poor Sight one eye	...	...	5
Eye Strain	...	...	3
No Squint Detected	...	...	3
Discharges numbered 115:—			
Cured	...	...	37
Cosmetic Cures	...	...	19
Failed to Attend	...	...	36
Left Town	...	...	3
Improved	...	...	19
No Improvement	...	...	1
Children on register at end of year	...	...	266
Total attendances for year	...	...	928 school age
			125 pre-school age

### (3) *Colour Vision*

The Ishihara test continued to be applied to all children at their 10-year-old school medical inspection, and to those at school leaving age who had missed it. The importance of this test lies in the fact that children with defective colour vision know at an early age that they will be unsuitable for certain occupations.

One hundred and twenty-nine boys and 2 girls were found to have defective colour vision.

### **Orthopaedic and Surgical Defects**

Children found at Periodic Medical Inspection or at the Minor Ailment Clinic to have orthopaedic, postural, or surgical defects necessitating specialist advice, are referred to the Consultant Surgeon, who holds ascertainment clinics on the first Wednesday of each month. When operation proves to be necessary children are admitted to the Children's Annexe, Luton, or the Westminster Children's Hospital, under the care of the Consultant Surgeon.

In addition to the consultant clinic a Postural Clinic is held at intervals for the observation and treatment of minor postural defects. Children were referred for remedial exercises from both Ascertainment and Postural Clinics.

The Remedial Gymnast Masseur, held three treatment sessions weekly throughout the year, giving groups of children special exercises for defects, principally postural defects of spine or feet.

Number of attendances at Ascertainment Clinics	...	270
Number of new cases during the year	...	115
Number of cases on register at 31.12.59	...	118
Number of attendances at treatment sessions	...	1,336

Particulars of the cases seen and the work undertaken are given below:—

DEFECTS	No. of Cases	No. of Attendances	No. for Exercises	No. of Appliances Ordered	No. of X-rays	No. ref. to Hospital	No. Discharged
Anterior Poliomyelitis ...	5	9	—	1	—	—	1
Congenital Deformities ...	4	5	—	—	—	—	—
Genu Valgum ...	20	26	3	1	1	2	7
Hallux Valgus ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Hammer Toes ...	1	1	—	—	—	1	—
Metatarsus Varus ...	2	3	—	2	—	—	—
Pes Cavus ...	1	3	—	2	—	—	1
Pes Planus ...	22	28	8	—	—	—	11
Pes Valgus ...	8	8	2	2	—	—	3
Pes Varus ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	1
Postural Defects ...	57	73	41	—	3	—	39
Tight Hamstring Tendons	5	8	—	2	—	1	1
Other Defects—							
Orthopaedic ...	38	63	3	8	6	4	13
Non-Orthopaedic—							
Asthma ...	2	3	2	—	—	—	2
Hernia ...	9	9	—	—	—	9	—
Hydrocele ...	2	2	—	—	—	1	—
Lymphatic Obstruction	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Naevus ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Poor Physical Development ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	1
Retractile Testicles ...	1	2	—	—	—	—	—
Undescended Testicles	22	22	—	—	—	10	6
Totals ...	204	270	59	18	10	28	86

In addition 65 attendances were made by 46 pre-school children referred by Medical Officers at the Child Welfare Centres and Day Nurseries.

### Ear, Nose and Throat Defects

Children suffering from these defects were treated in the first instance at the Minor Ailment Clinic, or referred directly to Consultants after informing the family doctors concerned.

### Physical Defects and Delicate Children

Thirty-four sessions were held during the year for the examination of physically defective and delicate children at which 36 new and 49 return cases were seen.

Children in this group receiving special educational treatment during the year were distributed as follows:—

Home tuition	...	...	...	...	8
Provision of transport	...	...	...	...	26
Convalescent Home or Open Air School	...	...	...	...	33

## Dental Defects

During the last decade there has been a steady increase in dental caries among young children, and, in spite of a better knowledge of the chain of processes responsible, any reduction in caries incidence can be brought about only with the help of greater co-operation from the general public. In an understaffed school dental service there is inevitably a temptation to concentrate on those children who are already interested in dental treatment, merely offering an emergency service for the relief of pain to the rest. Unless some more constructive approach can be devised, the number of “dental cripples” in the schools will continue to increase. Preventive dentistry is a relatively new concept and although even its diligent application cannot change the dental scene overnight, it offers a promising long-term policy. The modern civilised diet is regrettably cariogenic, as it includes a large amount of highly refined carbohydrates and also soft foods which require little or no mastication. A high correlation exists between the consumption of sugar and the caries experience of a nation, and, while it is hardly possible to change the eating habits of a whole country, at least something can be done to discourage excessive consumption of carbohydrates between meals. The mid-morning school break with its milk and biscuits or buns is a hallowed institution, but the carbohydrate would be much better taken in the form of fresh fruit. Unfortunately it is not absolutely true that “clean teeth do not decay” but even a reasonable attention to oral hygiene can reduce the incidence of caries. Parents must be told plainly and emphatically of the dangers of sticky, clinging food debris left around the teeth, particularly at night. They should be told as well of the value of a slice of apple after the last meal of the day.

Much controversy has arisen over the fluoridation of water supplies. Often science has yielded place to emotion, a great deal of which has been engendered by the dislike of compulsory mass medication. There seems to be little doubt of the efficiency and of the harmlessness of fluoridation although at present the only figures available are those from the United States and from New Zealand, but the results of the three pilot schemes in this country should appear soon. An alternative is the topical application of fluoride solutions. Its value has yet to be proved, and because, if properly conducted, it is a time-consuming procedure and can only be applied to those children who present themselves for treatment, its possible value is necessarily limited.

A great demand is made on the school dental service for orthodontic treatment—treatment which often is essential for either psychological or physiological reasons. Orthodontia can take up a considerable amount of time and appliances are expensive. However, what has been termed “interceptive orthodontics” can reduce substantially the number of cases requiring appliance treatment. Suitably planned extractions at the right age can produce excellent aesthetic results.



Another aspect of preventive dentistry—and one on which its success ultimately depends—concerns the education of parents and children in the better understanding of dental matters. An appalling ignorance exists about dental diseases: the “wait-until-it-aches-and-then-have-it-out” attitude must be overcome, and, with it, the unreasoning fear of dental treatment. Some of this fear is undoubtedly that of the unknown—a dental surgery always contains much strange and sinister looking equipment. A film or a film-strip explaining in simple terms the functions of much of this apparatus might help to allay fears. Older children, especially those studying biology, would probably be interested in elementary dental anatomy. It might even dispel some of the bogies of the “nerve that is always (according to the patient) being touched”.

The hope, expressed in the last report, that the number of extractions would decrease, has not been fulfilled. During the year, 1,513 permanent and 2,139 temporary teeth were extracted, and 1,020 general anaesthetics were administered. The amount of conservative work has remained about the same, and 1,158 children were made dentally fit. Rather more time was devoted to essential orthodontic treatment by the two full-time Dental Officers, 18 cases being taken on during the year, of which 3 were completed. In addition Mr. Robinson (part-time dental surgeon) started the treatment of 23 cases and completed 11. Fifteen children were referred to the Orthodontic Consultant at St. Mary's Hospital for advice. Twelve of these children are now under treatment at the clinic. A certain amount of minor oral surgery was undertaken, including the removal of supernumerary and of buried teeth, and two alveolectomies for the correction of premaxillary protrusion. Sixty-eight partial dentures were provided, mainly to replace anterior teeth lost through accidents.

For various reasons, including the illness of one of the Dental Officers, at the end of the summer, it was not possible to hold any dental inspections. Because of this, an accurate assessment of the dental state of the children in Luton still cannot be given, but, judging by those seen at the clinic, (who do not of course, form a truly random sample), it is not very good. However, it is an encouraging sign that many of the children seen at the beginning of the year returned voluntarily for re-inspection nine months or so later.

Once again, the failure rate has been low for those children who actually began treatment, and the number of those refusing conservative treatment has been very small indeed. However, the response to appointments offered to children referred from medical inspections at certain schools has not been good.

The statistical data relating to the work of the school dental clinic are shown in Table IV on pages 117 and 118.

## Backward Children

During the year, 98 sessions were held for the assessment of children referred on account of backwardness. Forty new and 61 return cases were seen and appropriate recommendations regarding extra tuition at school, special educational treatment, or further supervision were made in each case.

The number of children ascertained during the year under Section 34 of the Education Act, 1944, as educationally sub-normal and requiring special educational treatment was 17. Twenty-three children were admitted to Osborne Road School of whom 3 were transfers from other areas.

The number of children reported during the year under Section 57 (3) of the Education Act, 1944, as incapable of benefiting from education at school was 6, and 12 children were reported under Section 57 (5) as requiring supervision after leaving school. One child was excluded from school under Section 57 (4).

### Child Guidance

Over the past year an attempt has been made to bring the child guidance clinic into closer association with the work of the school health service. As far as possible cases are "screened" by school medical officers before being sent to the child psychiatrist. Of the 27 cases seen by the psychiatrist at the Child Guidance Clinic, 17 were referred by the school medical officers. The remaining 10 cases were referred by the following:—

Probation Officers	...	...	...	...	...	4
General Practitioners	...	...	...	...	...	1
Parents	...	...	...	...	...	1
Health Visitors	...	...	...	...	...	1
Magistrates	...	...	...	...	...	1
Others	...	...	...	...	...	2

Not all children who present mild behaviour problems are necessarily referred to the child psychiatrist. It is important that physical defects should first be excluded before it is assumed that a child is psychologically disturbed. The behaviour of the child who is partially deaf, for instance, may be attributed to inattention or disobedience. But the treatment meted out to him by his parents may, in fact, produce a psychological disturbance. Nor is the child who plays truant from school necessarily in need of psychological treatment; but on the other hand, the child who, because of fears and anxieties, stays at home with his mother and refuses to go to school can become very difficult to help if treatment by the child psychiatrist is unnecessarily delayed.

The school medical officer seeing a child on first interview, therefore, makes a detailed clinical assessment of his physical condition and, if it appears to be necessary, makes an assessment of his intelligence. A report from the Psychiatric Social Worker at this stage may also be invaluable. Consultation with the family doctor is also advisable before a decision is finally made to refer the child for the opinion and advice of the consultant psychiatrist.

During the year school medical officers examined children as follows:—

Total number of sessions	...	...	...	...	55
Number of new cases	...	...	...	...	47
Number of subsequent attendances	...	...	...	...	43
Number of cases referred to the Child Guidance Clinic	...	...	...	...	33
Number discharged	...	...	...	...	5

The analysis of the cases seen at the Child Guidance Clinic is as follows:—

Behaviour disorders	...	...	...	...	13
Stealing	...	...	...	...	5
School phobia	...	...	...	...	4
Adolescent and sexual difficulties	...	...	...	...	2
Anxiety state	...	...	...	...	1
Enuresis	...	...	...	...	1
Psychosomatic	...	...	...	...	1

The outcome of these cases was:—

Attendance for supervision	...	...	...	17
Attendance for diagnosis	...	...	...	4
Attended for treatment	...	...	...	3
Recommended for admission to residential schools for maladjusted pupils	...	...	...	1
Recommended for admission to special schools for educationally subnormal pupils	...	...	...	1
Admitted to hospital	...	...	...	1
Admitted to Heathwood Hostel	...	...	...	1

The Ministry of Education Report of the Committee on Maladjusted Children, 1955, recommends that Local Education Authorities should plan on the assumption that a Child Guidance team consisting of the equivalent of one full-time psychiatrist, two educational psychologists and three psychiatric social workers can adequately serve 45,000 school children. On this basis Luton, with a school population of 20,323, would require a psychiatrist for  $2\frac{1}{2}$  days a week, one Educational Psychologist and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  Psychiatric Social Workers.



## Speech Defects

All children are referred to the Speech Therapist by School Medical Officers, having been brought to notice by teachers, parents or general practitioners, or during routine medical examinations.

They are seen within 2–3 weeks of being referred and receive group and/or individual treatment. An attempt is made to ascertain children at an early age ( $3\frac{1}{2}$  to 4 years) so that parent guidance can be combined with observation or treatment. Where normal speech patterns are established at an early age the difficulties encountered in learning to read are greatly lessened. The role of physical defects, e.g. deafness in the causation of speech disorders is constantly borne in mind by the medical staff and speech therapist. After treatment children are discharged by the school medical officers.

The speech therapist carries out individual case work when visiting schools and conducts one session weekly at Osborne Road School. Effective treatment at this school is hampered by the lack of a quiet room, so essential for successful treatment of children who are educationally retarded.

### ANALYSIS OF CASES

				<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>
Stammering	...	...	...	36	6
Dyslalia	...	...	...	47	16
Dyslalia and Stammering	...		...	5	—
Dyseneia	...	...	...	2	—
Dysarthria	...	...	...	3	1
Others	...	...	...	1	—
Total	...	...	...		117

## HANDICAPPED PUPILS

Handicapped pupils are children who have a disability of mind or body which necessitates their being given education by special methods appropriate to the disability. It is the responsibility of the Local Education Authority to discover the children in their area who, having attained the age of two years require special educational treatment. Although the Education Authority are not empowered to require a child under the age of two to be medically examined, he is in most cases examined by the school medical officer in his capacity as medical officer to the Local Health Authority.

The discovery of a child's disability at an early age and making certain that he receives education most appropriate to his disability, has become one of the most important functions of the school medical officer. Ten categories of pupils are defined by the "School Health Service and Handicapped Pupils Regulations" 1953, as in need of special educational treatment. The definitions are given below, but it should be noted that the figures and tables relating to each handicap are only in respect of children who are admitted to special schools. There are many more who are receiving special educational treatment in ordinary schools. Indeed, the intention is that as many children as possible shall be kept within the environment of the ordinary school. This of course, requires the co-operation of head teachers, welfare officers, school nurses, etc., and a periodic review by the school medical officer to ensure that the arrangements are suitable and the child's progress satisfactory.

Dull and backward children constitute by far the largest group of children referred to the school medical officer, and by reason of their numbers present the biggest problem. They represent about 5-10% of the school population and require special help if they are to succeed at school. Most can be taught in ordinary schools, whilst the remainder (the educationally subnormal), need special education which the ordinary school cannot give. It is important to differentiate between the educationally subnormal pupil (who is backward because of limited intelligence), and the pupil whose backwardness is due to other causes, e.g. frequent and prolonged absence, defective vision or hearing.

Before a child is placed in a special school the Local Education Authority may require from the school medical officer a certificate in prescribed form showing the nature and extent of the child's disability.

The number of children in special schools for handicapped children at 31st December during each of the past five years is shown in the following table.

	Blind	Partially Sighted	Deaf	Partially Deaf	Educationally Subnormal	Epileptic	Maladjusted	Physically Handicapped	Speech	Delicate	Total	% of Total School Population
1955	—	4	6	—	98	3	22	11	1	18	163	0.90
1956	—	3	6	—	99	3	17	8	1	20	157	0.84
1957	—	2	6	—	100	2	19	7	1	14	151	0.77
1958	—	3	6	—	114	—	17	5	1	19	165	0.81
1959	—	4	6	—	110	1	16	6	1	13	157	0.77

From the table it will be seen that more than half the handicapped pupils admitted to Special Schools are educationally subnormal pupils attending Osborne Road School. Only 57 (0.3% of the total school population), are in residential special schools or convalescent homes outside Luton.

The ten categories of Handicapped Pupils defined in the School Health Service and Handicapped Pupils Regulations are as follows:—

**(a) Blind Pupils**

*“Pupils who have no sight or whose sight is, or is likely to become, so defective that they require education by methods not involving the use of sight.”*

Number of blind pupils newly assessed as needing special educational treatment at Special Schools or in Boarding Homes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Number of blind pupils admitted to Special Schools during the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Total Number of blind pupils in Special Schools for the Blind as at 31.12.59	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

**(b) Partially Sighted Pupils**

*“Pupils who by reason of defective vision cannot follow the normal regime of ordinary schools without detriment to their sight or to their educational development, but can be educated by special methods involving the use of sight.”*

Number of partially sighted pupils newly assessed as needing special educational treatment at Special Schools or in Boarding Homes ... ..	1
Number of partially sighted pupils admitted to Special Schools during the year ... ..	2
Total number of partially sighted pupils in Special Schools for partially sighted children as at 31.12.59 ... ..	4
Number of partially sighted pupils attending ordinary school	1

### (c) Deaf Pupils

*"Pupils who have no hearing or whose hearing is so defective that they require education by methods used for deaf pupils without naturally acquired speech or language."*

Number of deaf pupils newly assessed as needing special educational treatment at Special Schools or in Boarding Homes ... ..	Nil
Number of deaf pupils admitted to Special School during the year ... ..	Nil
Total number of pupils in Special Schools for the deaf as at 31.12.59 ... ..	6

### (d) Partially Deaf

*"Pupils who have some naturally acquired speech and language but whose hearing is so defective that they require for their education special arrangements or facilities though not necessarily all the educational methods used for deaf pupils."*

Number of partially deaf pupils newly assessed as needing special educational treatment at Special Schools or in Boarding Homes ... ..	Nil
Number of partially deaf pupils admitted to Special Schools during the year ... ..	Nil
Total number of pupils in Special Schools for Partially Deaf Children as at 31.12.59 ... ..	Nil

There are, however, 14 pupils attending ordinary schools with the assistance of hearing aids, of whom 9 attend the teacher of the deaf for special tuition.

### (e) Educationally Sub-normal Pupils

*"Pupils who, by reason of limited ability or other conditions resulting in educational retardation, require some specialised form of education, wholly or partly in substitution for the education normally given in ordinary schools."*

Number of Educationally Sub-normal Children newly assessed as needing special educational treatment at Special Schools or in Boarding Homes ... ..	17
--	----

Number of Educationally Subnormal Children admitted to Osborne Road School during the year ... ..	23
Number of Educationally Sub-normal Children admitted to Special Residential School ... ..	3
Total number of children on register at Osborne Road School at 31.12.59 ... ..	100
Total number of Educationally Sub-normal Children attending Special Residential Schools at 31.12.59 ...	10

**(f) Epileptic Pupils**

*“Pupils who by reason of epilepsy cannot be educated under the normal regime of ordinary schools without detriment to themselves or other pupils.”*

Number of epileptic pupils newly assessed as needing special educational treatment at Special Schools or in Boarding Homes ... ..	1
Number of epileptic pupils admitted to Special Schools during the year ... ..	2
Total number of epileptic pupils in Special Schools for epileptic pupils at 31.12.59 ... ..	2

**(g) Maladjusted Children**

*“Pupils who show evidence of emotional instability or psychological disturbance and require special educational treatment, in order to effect their personal, social or educational readjustment.”*

Number of maladjusted pupils newly assessed as needing special educational treatment at Special Schools or in Boarding Homes ... ..	3
Number of maladjusted pupils admitted to Special Schools etc., for maladjusted children during the year ...	4
Total number of maladjusted pupils in Special Schools, Hostels, etc. as at 31.12.59 ... ..	16

**(h) Physically Handicapped Pupils**

*“Pupils not suffering solely from a defect of sight or hearing who by reason of disease or crippling defect cannot, without detriment to their health or educational development, be satisfactorily educated under the normal regime of ordinary schools.”*

Number of physically handicapped pupils newly assessed as needing special educational treatment at Special Schools or in Boarding Homes ... ..	3
Number of physically handicapped pupils admitted to Residential Special Schools during the year ... ..	2
Total number of physically handicapped pupils in Residential Special Schools as at 31.12.59 ... ..	6



**(i) Pupils suffering from Speech Defect**

*"Pupils who on account of defect or lack of speech not due to deafness, require special educational treatment."*

Number of pupils with speech defect newly assessed as needing special educational treatment at Special Schools or in Boarding Homes	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Number of pupils with speech defect admitted to Special Schools during the year	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Total number of children with speech defect in Special Schools as at 31.12.59	...	...	...	...	...	1

**(j) Delicate Pupils**

*"Pupils not falling under any other category who by reason of impaired physical condition need a change of environment, or cannot, without risk to their health or educational development, be educated under the normal regime of ordinary schools."*

Number of delicate pupils newly assessed as needing special educational treatment at Special Schools or in Boarding Homes	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Number of delicate pupils admitted to Special Open Air Schools during the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Total number of delicate pupils in Residential Open Air Schools as at 31.12.59	...	...	...	...	...	...	13

**Audiometry**

Since acquiring a Pure-tone Audiometer in 1954 regular sessions have been held at the School Clinic for testing the hearing of pupils found at school medical inspection to have some degree of hearing loss. During 1959, 11 sessions were held and 58 children examined, as a result of which 4 pupils were referred to hospitals for further investigation.

There were 14 partially deaf pupils attending ordinary schools in Luton with the assistance of hearing aids.

**Special Class for the Partially Deaf**

A part-time teacher of the deaf conducted four sessions per week. The children who attend this class are seen in the first instance by the consultant at the Audiology Unit who provides a suitable hearing aid and recommends that the children receive special tuition.

Much valuable work is done by maintaining supervision of children wearing deaf aids in addition to those who are attending regularly for instruction.

## B.C.G. VACCINATION OF SCHOOL CHILDREN

The B.C.G. vaccination of school children aged 13 years against tuberculosis which was introduced in 1957, was continued in 1959, using the British freeze-dried vaccine (Glaxo). One thousand and eighty-seven children born between 1st September, 1945 and 31st August, 1946, were skin tested (Heaf test). Of these 1,017 (93.6%) were negative reactors and received B.C.G. vaccination. Seventy (6.4%) gave positive reactions, indicating past or present tuberculous infection, and were referred to the Chest Clinic for chest X-ray and investigation. One case of active tuberculosis was discovered. There were no complications resulting from the vaccination.

Of 2,086 children in the age group, attending Local Education Authority schools, 1,017 were given B.C.G. vaccination and it is accordingly estimated that about 55% of all children in this age group will have some degree of protection against tuberculosis during the vital years of adolescence.

Number of children in age group	...	...	...	2,086
Number accepting invitation for skin test	...	...	...	1,125
Number who attended for skin test	...	...	1,099	
Number of absentees	...	...	...	26
			—	1,125
Number of negative reactors	...	...	1,017	
Number of positive reactors	...	...	70	
Number who failed to attend reading of skin test			12	
			—	1,099
Number of negative reactors who received B.C.G.				1,017
Number of positive reactors referred to Chest Clinic	...	...	...	70
Number of positive reactors who attended Chest Clinic	...	...	...	67
Number of positive reactors who failed to attend Chest Clinic	...	...	...	—
Number of positive reactors already known to Chest Clinic	...	...	...	3
			—	70
Number of positive reactors recalled for further examination	...	...	...	1
Number of positive reactors found to have tuberculous infection	...	...	...	1



## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The number of confirmed cases of Infectious Disease in school children during the last five years is shown in the following table:—

	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
Scarlet Fever ... ..	40	19	13	23	17
Whooping Cough ... ..	41	83	76	17	21
Measles ... ..	597	516	356	454	474
Poliomyelitis:					
Paralytic ... ..	2	1	—	1	—
Non-Paralytic ... ..	—	7	—	—	—
Dysentery ... ..	3	62	209	10	2
Infective Hepatitis ... ..	32	67	18	1	1
Other infectious diseases ... ..	3	5	6	16	5

## NURSERY SCHOOLS AND NURSERY CLASSES

The two Nursery Schools, Dallow Road and Hart Hill, provided 165 places for children aged 2-5 years. The Nursery Classes at Beechwood Infants' School provided a further 60 places for children aged 3-5 years. The Nursery Schools and Classes are visited regularly by school nurses and at least twice each term by a medical officer who examines all new entrants and those under observation.

## PROVISION OF MEALS AND MILK IN SCHOOLS

There are now 23 school kitchens and 11 dining centres, Norton Road Primary School kitchen opening in April, 1959. The general arrangements for the distribution of meals to dining centres where self-contained kitchens have not yet been established are as follows:—

From Challney C.S. School kitchen to Denbigh Road Secondary and Primary Schools.

From Hart Hill C.P. School kitchen to St. Matthew's Primary Schools.

From Icknield C.S. School kitchen to Chapel-Langley C.S., Hitchin Road Secondary and Primary, Limbury C.P., Old Bedford Road C.S., and Osborne Road Schools.

From Maidenhall C.P. School kitchen to Dunstable Road Primary Schools.

Self-contained kitchen/dining-rooms are now established at the following schools:—

Beech Hill C.S.	High	St. Josephs R.C.
Beechwood C.P.	Leagrave Infants	Surrey Street
Dallow Nursery	Leagrave Junior	Technical
Farley C.P.	Norton Road C.P.	Tennyson Road*
Grammar	Ramridge C.P.	Whipperley
Hart Hill Nursery	Rotheram C.S.	William Austin C.P.

\* Pupils from Christ Church Junior and Infants and Queen Square Junior Boys' Schools are conveyed to and from Tennyson Road School dining-room for mid-day meals.

A kitchen is in course of erection at Dunstable Road Primary School; the building of a kitchen at Stopsley Primary School will begin early in 1960.

During the financial year of 1958/1959, 1,651,980 meals were served to scholars including 44,579 free meals and 157,232 meals supplied to teaching and canteen staffs. The following statistics have been submitted to the Ministry of Education in connection with the provision of meals and milk.

	<i>Oct. 1958</i>	<i>Oct. 1959</i>
Number of children in attendance at school ...	18,707	19,082
Number of children receiving meals for payment	8,059	8,612
Number of children receiving free meals ...	231	276
Number of children receiving free milk ...	14,027	14,511
Percentage of children receiving meals ...	44.31	46.58
Percentage of children receiving milk ...	74.98	76.04

The permitted daily quantity of milk for school children has remained at one-third of a pint throughout the year. Milk is delivered to 62 school departments, including 2 nursery schools and 7 independent schools.

### CO-OPERATION OF TEACHERS AND SCHOOL WELFARE OFFICERS

The efficient conduct of the School Health Service depends in large measure on the close co-operation of doctors and nurses with the teachers and children in the schools. In this way teachers are encouraged to bring to the notice of the school medical officer children whose general conditions, behaviour, lack of progress in school, etc., indicates the need for medical advice.

The co-operation of teachers and others connected with the welfare of children has been greatly appreciated.

### EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN

Before or within 14 days from the date when a child begins employment he must be medically examined to ensure that the employment will not be prejudicial to his health or physical development, and that it will not render him unfit to obtain proper benefit from his education. Re-examination every six months is required during the course of employment.

Number of children examined by School Medical Officer and passed ...	360
Number of children re-examined by School Medical Officer and passed ...	143
Number of children examined by School Medical Officer and refused certificates ...	—
Total ...	503

Number of children licensed during 1959 was 351, and the nature of the employment was as follows:—

Newspaper deliveries ...	226
Errand Boys, Shop Assistants, etc. ...	125

Eight children were examined under the Children's and Young Persons' Act, 1933, in connection with employment of children in entertainment.

## MEDICAL INSPECTION RETURNS

Table A

## PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

Age Groups (1)	No. of Pupils Inspected (2)	Satisfactory		Unsatisfactory	
		No. (3)	% of Col. 2 (4)	No. (5)	% of Col. 2 (6)
1955 and later	139	139	100.00	—	—
1954	384	384	100.00	—	—
1953	1,183	1,182	99.92	1	0.08
1952	240	240	100.00	—	—
1951	102	102	100.00	—	—
1950	87	86	98.85	1	1.15
1949	1,172	1,172	100.00	—	—
1948	542	542	100.00	—	—
1947	237	236	99.58	1	0.42
1946	135	135	100.00	—	—
1945	403	403	100.00	—	—
1944 and earlier	1,709	1,708	99.94	1	0.06
TOTAL	6,333	6,329	99.94	4	0.06

Table B

PUPILS FOUND TO REQUIRE TREATMENT AT PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS  
(excluding Dental Diseases and Infestation with Vermin)

Age groups inspected (1)	For defective vision (excluding squint) (2)	For any of the other conditions recorded in Part II (3)	Total Individual Pupils (4)
1955 and later	—	2	2
1954	26	30	51
1953	127	91	201
1952	32	17	46
1951	21	11	32
1950	17	9	23
1949	150	90	227
1948	74	36	105
1947	45	21	61
1946	28	15	38
1945	67	32	92
1944 and earlier	384	117	474
TOTAL ... ..	971	471	1,352

**Table C****OTHER INSPECTIONS**

Number of Special Inspections ... ..	2,052
Number of re-inspections ... ..	3,741
<b>TOTAL ... ..</b>	<b>5,793</b>

**Table D****INFESTATION WITH VERMIN**

(a) Total number of individual examinations of pupils in schools by school nurses or other authorised persons ... ..	14,779
(b) Total number of individual pupils found to be infested ...	275
(c) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54(2), Education Act, 1944) ...	173
(d) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54(3), Education Act, 1944) ...	—

# **PART II. DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTION DURING THE YEAR**

**Table A**  
**PERIODIC INSPECTIONS**

Defect Code No.  (1)	Defect or Disease  (2)	PERIODIC INSPECTIONS							
		ENTRANTS		LEAVERS		OTHERS		TOTAL	
		(T) (3)	(O) (4)	(T) (5)	(O) (6)	(T) (7)	(O) (8)	(T) (9)	(O) (10)
4	Skin ... ..	6	15	47	12	12	8	65	35
5	Eyes—(a) Vision ...	185	410	451	82	335	323	971	815
	(b) Squint ...	21	4	5	—	13	1	39	5
	(c) Other ...	1	1	5	—	5	2	11	3
6	Ears—(a) Hearing ...	3	38	1	4	6	10	10	52
	(b) Otitis Media	5	59	2	10	2	14	9	83
	(c) Other ...	1	1	2	—	3	1	6	1
7	Nose and Throat ...	24	173	6	14	16	61	46	248
8	Speech ... ..	14	16	4	—	13	4	31	20
9	Lymphatic Glands ...	—	22	1	1	—	4	1	27
10	Heart ... ..	2	6	1	8	5	8	8	22
11	Lungs ... ..	8	31	3	11	6	14	17	56
12	Developmental—								
	(a) Hernia ...	5	5	—	—	8	1	13	6
	(b) Other ...	5	22	1	12	17	79	23	113
13	Orthopaedic—								
	(a) Posture ...	4	10	40	20	25	33	69	63
	(b) Feet ...	9	14	8	14	23	20	40	48
	(c) Other ...	15	45	18	10	17	23	50	78
14	Nervous System—								
	(a) Epilepsy ...	4	3	2	—	1	1	7	4
	(b) Other ...	3	6	3	5	6	9	12	20
15	Psychological—								
	(a) Development	2	6	—	—	4	5	6	11
	(b) Stability ...	3	38	2	1	7	16	12	55
16	Abdomen ... ..	2	11	—	5	2	9	4	25
17	Other ... ..	—	1	—	5	—	11	—	17

Table B

## SPECIAL INSPECTIONS

Defect Code No. (1)	Defects or Disease (2)	SPECIAL INSPECTIONS	
		Pupils requiring Treatment (3)	Pupils requiring Observation (4)
4	Skin ... ..	292	1
5	Eyes—(a) Vision ...	4	1
	(b) Squint ...	2	—
	(c) Other ...	91	—
6	Ears—(a) Hearing ...	4	—
	(b) Otitis Media	25	—
	(c) Other ...	58	—
7	Nose and Throat ...	76	1
8	Speech ... ..	14	—
9	Lymphatic Glands ...	1	—
10	Heart ... ..	3	—
11	Lungs ... ..	13	—
12	Developmental—		
	(a) Hernia ...	2	—
	(b) Other ...	6	—
13	Orthopaedic—		
	(a) Posture ...	—	—
	(b) Feet ...	7	—
	(c) Other ...	29	—
14	Nervous System—		
	(a) Epilepsy ...	2	—
	(b) Other ...	6	—
15	Psychological—		
	(a) Development	14	—
	(b) Stability ...	96	—
16	Abdomen ... ..	3	—
17	Other ... ..	517	—



**PART III. TREATMENT OF PUPILS ATTENDING MAINTAINED  
AND ASSISTED PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS  
(including Nursery and Special Schools)**

**Table A**

**EYE DISEASES, DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT**

	Number of cases known to have been dealt with
External and other, excluding errors of refraction and squint ... ..	185
Errors of refraction (including squint) ... ..	1,944
TOTAL ... ..	2,129
Number of pupils for whom spectacles were prescribed	827

**Table B**

**DISEASES AND DEFECTS OF EAR, NOSE AND THROAT**

	Number of cases known to have been dealt with
Received operative treatment—	
(a) for diseases of the ear ... ..	9
(b) for adenoids and chronic tonsillitis ... ..	476
(c) for other nose and throat conditions ... ..	12
Received other forms of treatment ... ..	119
TOTAL ... ..	616
Total number of pupils in schools who are known to have been provided with hearing aids	
(a) in 1959 ... ..	4
(b) in previous years ... ..	10

**Table C**

**ORTHOPAEDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS**

	Number of cases known to have been treated
(a) Pupils treated at clinics or out-patients departments	152
(b) Pupils treated at school for postural defects ...	76
TOTAL ... ..	228



**Table D**  
DISEASES OF THE SKIN  
(excluding uncleanliness, for which see Table D of Part I)

	Number of cases known to have been treated
Ringworm—(a) Scalp ... ..	—
(b) Body ... ..	—
Scabies ... ..	9
Impetigo ... ..	12
Other skin diseases ... ..	115
TOTAL ... ..	136

**Table E**  
CHILD GUIDANCE TREATMENT

	Number of cases known to have been treated
Pupils treated at Child Guidance Clinics ... ..	27

**Table F**  
SPEECH THERAPY

	Number of cases known to have been treated
Pupils treated by a speech therapist ... ..	117

**Table G**  
OTHER TREATMENT GIVEN

	Number of cases known to have been treated
(a) Pupils with minor ailments ... ..	1,322
(b) Pupils who received convalescent treatment under School Health Service arrangements ... ..	33
(c) Pupils who received B.C.G. vaccination ... ..	1,017
(d) Other than (a), (b) and (c) above. Please specify	—
Orthoptics ... ..	295
Total (a) - (d) ... ..	2,667

# **PART IV. DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT CARRIED OUT BY THE AUTHORITY**

(1) Number of pupils inspected by the Authority's Dental Officers:—							
(a) At Periodic Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
(b) As Specials	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,349
							<hr/>
Total (1)	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,349
							<hr/>
(2) Number found to require treatment	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,279
(3) Number offered treatment	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,279
(4) Number actually treated	...	...	...	...	...	...	987
(5) Number of attendances made by pupils for treatments, including those recorded at 11 (h) overleaf	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,804
(6) Half days devoted to:—							
(a) Periodic (school) Inspection	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
(b) Treatment	...	...	...	...	...	...	964
							<hr/>
Total (6)	...	...	...	...	...	...	964
							<hr/>
(7) Fillings:—							
(a) Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,871
(b) Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	...	75
							<hr/>
Total (7)	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,946
							<hr/>
(8) Number of Teeth filled:—							
(a) Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,654
(b) Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	...	69
							<hr/>
Total (8)	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,723
							<hr/>
(9) Extractions:—							
(a) Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,513
(b) Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,139
							<hr/>
Total (9)	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,652
							<hr/>
(10) Administration of general anaesthetics for extraction	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,020

(11) Orthodontics

(a)	Cases commenced during the year	...	...	...	41
(b)	Cases carried forward from previous year		...	...	58
(c)	Cases completed during the year	...	...	...	14
(d)	Cases discontinued during the year	...	...	...	1
(e)	Pupils treated with appliances	...	...	...	43
(f)	Removable appliances fitted	...	...	...	44
(g)	Fixed appliances fitted	...	...	...	3
(h)	Total attendances	...	...	...	564

(12) Number of pupils supplied with artificial teeth	...	...	68
--	-----	-----	----

(13) Other operations:—

(a) Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,132
(b) Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	...	269
							<hr/>
Total (13)	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,401
							<hr/>

# HANDICAPPED PUPILS REQUIRING EDUCATION AT SPECIAL SCHOOLS OR BOARDING IN BOARDING SCHOOLS

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	Blind	Partially Sighted	Deaf	Partially Deaf	Delicate	Physically Handicapped	Educationally Subnormal	Maladjusted	Epileptic	Total
In the calendar year, 1959										
A Handicapped Pupils <i>newly placed</i> in Special Schools or Boarding Homes ... ..	—	2	—	—	14	2	22	4	2	46
B Handicapped Pupils <i>newly assessed</i> as needing special educational treatment at special schools or in boarding homes ...	—	1	—	—	17	3	17	3	1	42
On or about 22.1.60										
C (i) Handicapped Pupils on the registers of										
1. maintained special schools										
(a) as day pupils ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	100	—	—	100
(b) as boarding pupils ...	—	1	—	—	1	2	9	—	—	13
2. non-maintained special schools										
(a) as day pupils ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) as boarding pupils ...	—	3	6	—	15	7	—	4	1	36
(ii) On the registers of independent schools under arrangements made by the Authority	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	—	6
(iii) Boarding in homes and not already included under (i) or (ii) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	6
TOTAL C ... ..	—	4	6	—	16	9	110	15	1	161
D Number of Handicapped Pupils being educated under arrangements made under Section 56 of the Education Act, 1944—										
(i) in hospitals ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(ii) in other groups (e.g., units for spastics, convalescent homes) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(iii) at home ... ..	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	—	—	4
E Number of Handicapped Pupils requiring places in Special Schools—										
(i) TOTAL (a) day ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	3
(b) boarding ... ..	1	—	—	—	3	1	—	2	—	7
(ii) who had not reached the age of 5:—										
(a) awaiting day places ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) awaiting boarding places	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(iii) who had reached the age of 5 but whose parents had refused consent to their admission to a special school:—										
(a) awaiting day places ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) awaiting boarding places	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	—	4

F Number of Pupils on the registers of hospital special schools	...	...	...	6
<hr/>				
G Number of Children reported during the year to the local health authority—				
(a) under Section 57 (3) (excluding any returned under (b))	...	...	...	6
(b) under Section 57 (4)	...	...	...	—
(c) under Section 57 (5)	...	...	...	12
of the Education Act, 1944				
<hr/>				
Amount spent on arrangements under Section 56 of the Education Act 1944 for the education of handicapped pupils otherwise than at school in the financial year ended 31st March, 1959	...	...	...	£1,145

## APPENDIX

### PROBLEM FAMILIES

The Co-ordinating Committee, set up in accordance with Ministry of Health Circular 27/54, met on six occasions during the year. Three case conferences of officers concerned with specific families were also held.

At the time the Co-ordinating Committee was constituted in 1955, it was intended that only families known to have created a problem to more than two departments should be referred to the Committee for consideration. In recent years, however, the position had been reached when none, or at most one case per year was being referred, with the result that the Committee was only meeting on one or two occasions each year. The Committee felt that, rather than wait until a particular family presented a problem, they should try to anticipate the occurrence of problems arising in families already known to individual members and concentrate more on preventive measures. As a result, ninety-five families were referred as follows:

Number of cases referred by:

Five departments ...	...	...	...	1
Four „	...	...	...	2
Three „	...	...	...	4
Two „	...	...	...	15
One „	...	...	...	73
				—
				95
				—

The Committee concentrated on twenty-five of these families which were considered to be the most urgent and the remaining seventy cases were withdrawn by the departments concerned. Of the cases discussed, all constituted in varying degrees a social problem and it was agreed to continue the supervision, assistance and guidance, on the lines already being provided to the families by the various departments. In addition to the above, five other families were also under review by the Committee during the year.



## MEDICAL EXAMINATION OF TEACHERS AND ENTRANTS TO TRAINING COLLEGES

The Ministry of Education Circular 249, 1952, requires that all candidates applying for admission to training colleges and university departments of education, and all entrants to the teaching profession, be medically examined. An X-ray examination of the chest is also compulsory for those entering the teaching profession. During the year 114 examinations were made in accordance with the provisions of the above Circular and X-ray examinations were arranged where necessary.

### MEDICAL EXAMINATION OF STAFF OF CORPORATION DEPARTMENTS FOR ENTRY INTO SUPERANNUATION OR SICK PAY SCHEMES

Departments concerned:—

Airport	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Baths	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Borough Architect's	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Borough Engineer's	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Borough Treasurer's	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Civil Defence	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Education	...	...	...	...	...	...	113
Highways	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Housing	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Market	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Parks	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Public Cleansing	...	...	...	...	...	...	54
Public Health	...	...	...	...	...	...	42
Public Library	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Sewage	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Town Clerk's	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Transport	...	...	...	...	...	...	80
TOTAL							411



